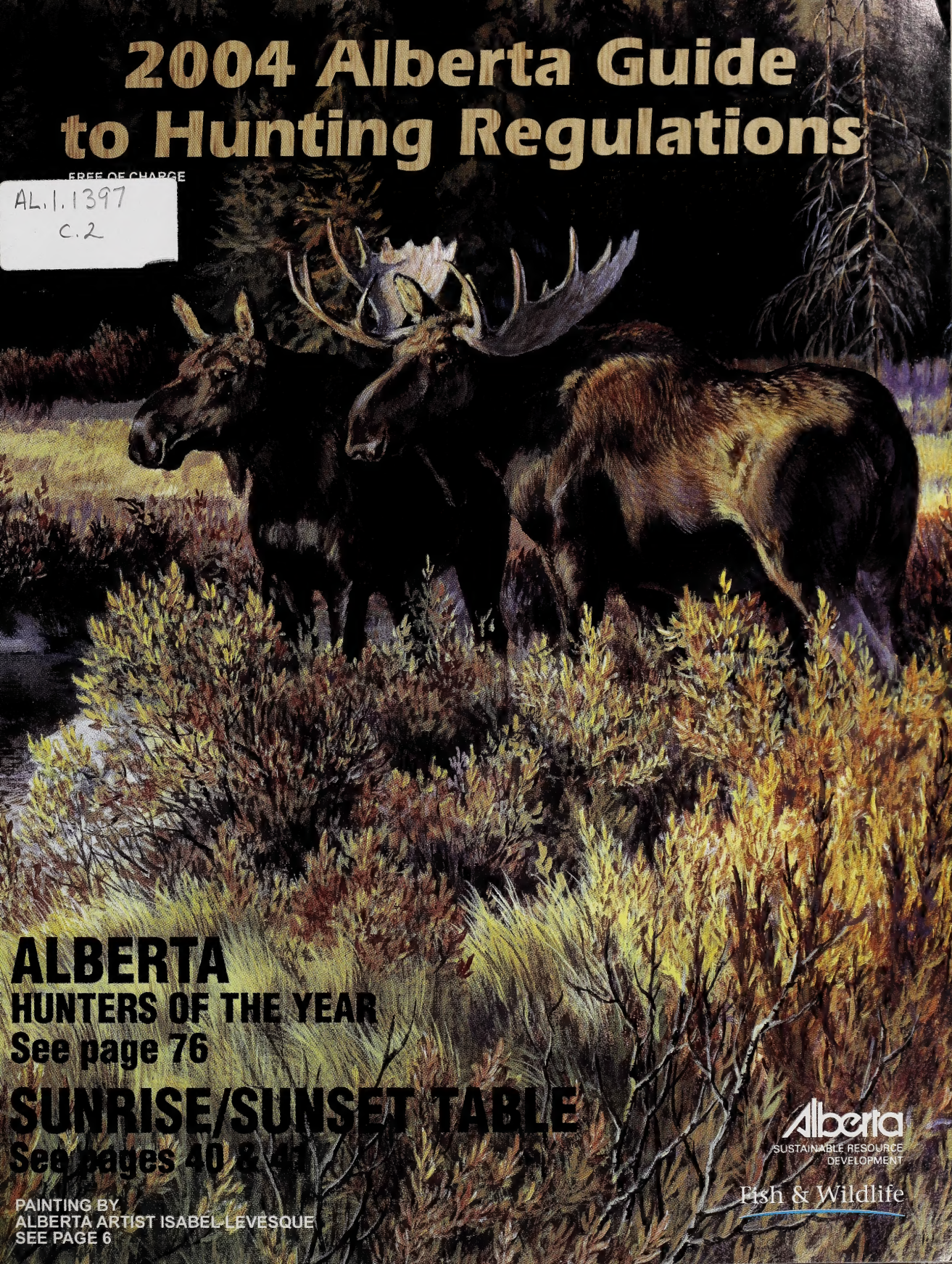


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ALBERTA
HUNTERS OF THE YEAR
See page 76
SUNRISE/SUNSET TABLE
See pages 40 & 41

PAINTING BY
ALBERTA ARTIST ISABEL LEVÉSQUE
SEE PAGE 6

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Notice to Hunters

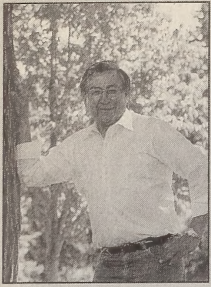
The Fish and Wildlife Division of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development frequently conducts vehicle checks to assist in the management of Alberta's fish and wildlife resources and to ensure compliance with existing legislation.

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Minister's Message



Alberta's 2004 hunting season offers all the excitement and adventure anyone could imagine—a real “Call of the Wild” for sports enthusiasts around the world. When people can also enjoy exceptional

scenery and sunny fall weather, hunting in our province is really a memorable experience.

This year, there are increased hunting opportunities for deer, moose and elk in some areas where populations have grown considerably.

Please make sure you become familiar with the information in this guide, because regulations can vary from year to year. For example, season start times and lengths have changed in certain regions and Sunday hunting has been extended to many new areas.

Whether you live in Alberta or are visiting from elsewhere in Canada or another country, I encourage you to explore all the attractions our province has to offer. Best wishes for a safe, enjoyable and successful hunting experience.

Mike Cardinal
Minister of Sustainable Resource Development



Fish & Wildlife

COVER ARTIST

Isabel Levesque

The Painter of this year's cover art, is a popular Alberta artist known for her realistic painterly interpretations of Alberta's landscapes, wildlife and oldtime harvests.

With year's of extensive art education, her work has been used in many wilderness and environmental calendars and posters and she is the recipient of several awards for contributions to Ducks Unlimited. Well represented in Alberta Government and numerous corporate collections, in 1989 she was selected as winner of the 1st of Province Alberta Game Bird Habitat Stamp-Print program.

Using her own photo material, this artist especially enjoys composing paintings showing wildlife subjects in the appropriate landscape. For information regarding paintings and prints, phone Westwind Art, 780-413-6670.

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions will help you understand this Guide:

Antlered – a white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose or elk having an antler exceeding 10.2 cm (4 in.) in length.

Antlerless – a white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose or elk that is not “antlered” (as defined above).

Bait – any substance that consists of a food attractant, including any mineral and any representation of a food attractant.

Big Game Designated Guide – a person designated by the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society to commercially guide big game hunters in Alberta. A Designated Guide may guide not more than two Non-resident (Canadian) and non-resident alien big game hunters at a time in any part of Alberta, provided that each Non-resident (Canadian) or Non-resident alien has contracted the hunt through an Outfitter-guide. The two-hunter limit does not include Resident hunters.

Big Game Outfitter-guide – a person who is the holder of a valid Outfitter-guide Permit, and who provides outfitting and guiding services to big game hunters in Alberta.

- Class S Outfitter-guide – an Outfitter-guide who holds Non-resident (Canadian)/Non-resident Alien allocations for Trophy Sheep Special Licences. A Class S Outfitter-guide may also hold allocations for other big game special licences.
- Class T Outfitter-guide – an Outfitter-guide who holds allocations valid for Non-resident (Canadian) and Non-resident Alien big game special licences other than those for trophy sheep.

Bird Game Designated Guide – a person designated by the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society to commercially guide game bird hunters in Alberta.

Bird Game Outfitter-guide – a person who is the holder of a valid Bird Game Outfitter-guide Permit issued by the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society, and who provides outfitting and guiding services to non-resident and non-resident alien game bird hunters in Alberta.

Hunter Host – an adult resident who is the holder of a valid Hunter Host Licence. A Hunter Host **may not provide services for gain or reward, or accept a fee for services,**

directly or indirectly.

The licence authorizes the holder (**usually a relative or friend of the hunters to be hosted**) to host a maximum of two non-residents (Canadian) or non-resident aliens* named on the host's licence to hunt wolf, coyote and big game throughout the province. * Non-resident alien hunters are referred to Outfitting and Guiding Requirements (page 17) for additional conditions and restrictions.

Green Area – forest lands not available for agricultural development other than grazing. In general, the Green Area is public land outside the parkland and prairie regions, or roughly in the northern half of the province and within a strip running along the Rocky Mountains and foothills.

Non-resident (Canadian) – a person who is not a Resident (see below), but who makes his or her home and is ordinarily present in Canada, and who has lived in Canada for the 12-month period immediately preceding the relevant date.

Non-resident Alien – a person who is neither a Resident (see below) nor a Non-resident (see above).

OHV (Off-Highway Vehicle) – any motorized vehicle designed for cross-country travel on land, water, snow, ice, marsh or swamp land, or on other natural terrain.

[Exceptions: motor boats, as well as four-wheel-drive vehicles and motorcycles registered in accordance with the *Traffic Safety Act*.] Among OHVs, include the following kinds of vehicles when they are designed for cross-country travel as described above:

- four-wheel drive or low pressure tire vehicles,
- motorcycles and related two-wheel vehicles,
- amphibious machines,
- all-terrain vehicles,
- miniature motor vehicles,
- snow vehicles,
- minibikes, or
- any other means of transportation that is propelled by any power other than muscular power or wind.

Partner Licence – a licence issued to an eligible hunter that allows him or her to hunt a specific species in a specified WMU and season under the direct authority of a Special Licence held by another hunter successful in a draw.

Alberta's Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Regulations Online

albertaoutdoorsmen.ca

Resident – a person who either

- has his or her only or primary residence in Alberta and
 - 1) is a Canadian citizen or is admitted to permanent residence in Canada, or
 - 2) has lived in Canada for the 12-month period immediately preceding the relevant date; or
- is on full-time service with the Armed Forces of Canada and would, if an election were held under the *Elections Act* (Canada), be eligible to vote in Alberta under that Act.

Special Licence – a licence obtained through a draw process, or for Non-resident and Non-resident Alien hunters, through an Outfitter-guide. It permits hunting of a specific type or class of game only in specific areas during a specified season (page 16).

Weapon – a firearm or any other device that propels a projectile by means of an explosion, spring, air, gas, string, wire or elastic material or any combination of those things.

White Geese – snow and Ross' Geese.

WMU – Wildlife Management Unit, a geographical area prescribed in legislation.

WIN – Wildlife Identification Number, a permanent registration number issued to each hunter and angler.

Month Abbreviations

The following defines the month abbreviations used in this guide:

A – August S – September O – October
N – November D – December
J – January F – February M – March
Ap – April Ma – May Ju – June

Attention

**All Black Bear and
Non-resident (Canadian)
Non-resident Alien
Wolf/Coyote Hunters**

If you purchase one of these licences for the spring season, it can be used for the following fall of the same calendar year. This applies for any of the following: Wildlife Certificate, Black Bear Licence (Resident or Non-Resident [Canadian]), Black Bear Special Licence (Non-resident [Canadian] or Non-Resident Alien), Supplemental Black Bear Licence (Resident or Non-Resident [Canadian]) or a Non-Resident (Canadian)/Non-Resident Alien Wolf/Coyote Licence.

DON'T DISCARD IT!

It can be used for the following fall season.

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IMPORTANT CHANGES FOR 2004

GENERAL

- A Resident Youth Partner Licence has been created to allow youths (12 to 17 years of age) to sign on as a partner on any special draw licence issued to a resident. See page 16.
- Sunday hunting (excluding waterfowl) has been extended to the following WMUs (or portions thereof) where Sunday hunting was not previously allowed: 357, 358, 359, 360, 521, 522, 523, 526, 527, 535 and 537.
- Resident hunters who harvested a trophy sheep may apply in a trophy sheep draw the following year by using the '999' option as their only draw choice.
- The OHV restriction that addressed transporting a weapon on an OHV at certain times has been removed in WMUs 523, 524, 527, 535 and 537.

BIG GAME

- Archery hunters must now participate in the draw for antlered moose in WMU 348.
- The season has been lengthened for a number of Antlered Moose Special Licence areas.
- Calf Moose Special Licence seasons have been created in WMUs 360, 522, 523, 526 and 527. Archery hunters must also participate in these draws.
- The calf moose season in WMU 359 has been changed to November 1 – 30 and archery hunters must now participate in the draw.
- The calf moose season in WMU 353 is restricted to the western portion of the WMU.
- The antlerless elk season in WMU 418 has been closed.
- A Resident Antlered and Antlerless Elk Special Licence has been created for Camp Wainwright with the same season dates as the current Antlered and Antlerless Moose Special Licences in Camp Wainwright.
- Antlerless Elk Special Licences have been created for WMU 439, a portion of WMU 344 and the portion of WMU 438 known as Camp 1.
- The antlerless elk season in WMU 338 is restricted to the northern portion of the WMU.
- The antlerless elk season in WMU 234 has been split into two seasons.
- All late antlerless elk seasons have been extended to December 20.
- A Resident Trophy Sheep Special Licence has been created, which includes WMU 446 and a portion of WMU 444 for any trophy sheep (minimum 4/5 curl). The minimum full curl requirement has been eliminated in WMU 446.
- Hunters drawn in the WMU 437 trophy sheep draw may now hunt any trophy sheep (minimum 4/5 curl). The minimum full curl requirement has been eliminated in WMU 437.
- WMU 438 has been divided into 4 areas for Non-trophy Sheep Special Licences. Three of these areas have open seasons.
- All grizzly bears must be registered no later than four working days from the date of kill.
- Antlerless white-tailed deer seasons have been extended in some WMUs.
- The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence has been added to WMUs 250 and 544.
- The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence will be issued with two tags, with the second tag only valid in specific WMUs. See page 19.

WMU DESCRIPTIONS

The WMU boundaries shown on the enclosed map are small-scale approximations of the actual units legally described in the *Wildlife Regulation* (AR 143/97) and subsequent amendments. The map enclosed in this Guide is provided to help you identify the WMU in which you wish to hunt. **It is your responsibility to know in which WMU you are hunting and the seasons, rules and regulations that govern hunting in that WMU.** Text descriptions of the WMU boundaries may be either read at your nearest Fish and Wildlife Division office or through the Alberta Queen's Printer website (www.gov.ab.ca/qp) or purchased from The Queen's Printer at the following addresses:

10611 - 98 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2P7

#602, 620 - 7th Avenue S.W.
Calgary, AB T2P 0Y8

Telephone: (780) 427-4952

Telephone: (403) 297-6251

NOTE: The Queen's Printer does not sell maps.

MAPS

Maps providing information about access, topography and land ownership can be purchased at several locations throughout the province.

Provincial and Federal Maps

Provincial and federal access and topographical maps are available from various private map dealers throughout the province.

County and Other Municipal Maps

Hunters are reminded to check with county and municipal offices for detailed maps showing land ownership status. These maps are available for a nominal fee and are useful for determining land status and ownership, which can help you obtain permission for access.

Disclaimers

This pamphlet is neither a legal document nor a complete listing of current Alberta hunting regulations. It is a summary of the regulations and is published annually by Sports Scene Publications Inc. to help hunters understand the rules of hunting. Details of the regulations may be obtained from the nearest Fish and Wildlife Division office (page 10).

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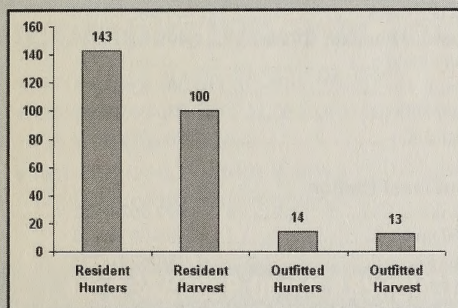
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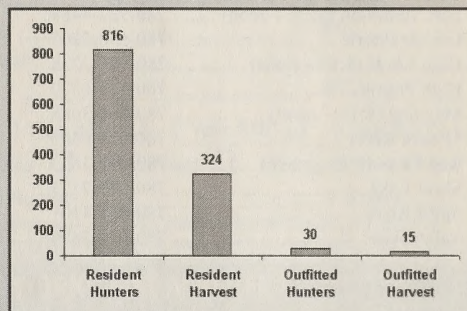
ISBN 0-9732626-2-1

- *Outfitted-hunting is an important segment of Alberta's tourism industry*
- *APOS strives for excellence in guiding and outfitting practices*
- *Outfitted hunting contributes an estimated \$63.1 million dollars each year to the Alberta economy while being limited to a small portion of the hunting opportunities available (See examples below)*

Antlered Moose in WMU 360 (Rut)



Antlered White-tailed Deer in WMU 508



Statistics: Alberta Sustainable Resource Development

Changes in Waterfowl Outfitting for 2004

Alberta has an abundance of waterfowl resources which are more than capable of meeting the hunting needs of our resident, non-resident and non-resident alien hunters, alike. As a result, any proposed limitations to waterfowl hunting will only relate to 'access' to waterfowl hunting opportunities.

After gathering data and licensing Bird Game Outfitter-Guides for four years, the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society, in conjunction with Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, is implementing a waterfowl outfitting management system, starting this year.

Benefits of New Management System

- **Regulate** the number of outfitters in each WMU and **reduce** the potential for **conflict** with other stakeholders.
- **Concentrate** the operations of each outfitting business into adjoining WMUs, in order to **facilitate cooperation** with landholders.
- **Ensure accountability** is a key consideration of all waterfowl outfitting businesses.
- Provide a **mechanism** by which waterfowl outfitters can acquire **equity** in their businesses.
- Support the industry by providing **stability** and **predictability** to their businesses, and to ensure that a reasonable level of **access** to harvest opportunities is **available** to other users.

FURTHER INQUIRIES

The following sources are available for further information about these regulations or other matters concerning fish or wildlife management:

Information Centre

Edmonton 780-944-0313
E-mail: srd.infocent@gov.ab.ca

Websites — <http://www3.gov.ab.ca/srd> – go to “Fish and Wildlife,”
click on “Living with Fish and Wildlife,” then to
“Hunting in Alberta” or go to
<http://www.albertaoutdoorsmen.ca/huntingregs/>

Fish and Wildlife Division Head Office Mailing Address

Fish and Wildlife Division
Great West Life Building
9920 – 108 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2M4



Fish & Wildlife

Fish and Wildlife Division Local Office Telephone Numbers

For toll-free access within Alberta to most Alberta Government offices, call 310-0000.

Northwest Region

Fairview 780-835-2737
Fort Vermilion (8:15 – noon) 780-927-4488
Grande Prairie 780-538-5265
High Level (8:15 – noon) 780-926-2238
High Prairie 780-523-6520
Manning (8:15 – noon) 780-836-3065
*Peace River 780-624-6405
Red Earth (8:15 – noon) 780-649-3853
Slave Lake 780-849-7123
Spirit River 780-864-4101
Valleyview 780-524-3605

Northeast Region

Athabasca 780-675-2419
Bonnyville 780-826-3142
Cold Lake 780-639-3377
Edmonton 780-427-3574
Fort McMurray 780-743-7200
*Lac La Biche 780-623-5247
St. Paul 780-645-6313
Smoky Lake (8:15 – noon) 780-656-3556

Southwest Region

Barrhead 780-674-8236
Blairmore 403-562-3289
Canmore 403-678-2373
Claresholm 403-625-1450
Cochrane 403-932-2388
Drayton Valley 780-542-6616
Edson 780-723-8244
Evansburg 780-727-3635
Fox Creek 780-622-3421
Ghost 403-673-3663
Grande Cache 780-827-3356
High River (8:15 – 4:30, Mon. &
Fri.; 8:15 – noon, Tues. to
Thu) 403-652-8330

Hinton 780-865-8264
Nordegg (8:15 – noon) 403-721-3965
Pincher Creek 403-627-1116
*Rocky Mountain House 403-845-8230
Stony Plain 780-963-6131
Sundre 403-638-3805
Swan Hills 780-333-2229
Whitecourt 780-778-7112

Southeast Region

Brooks 403-362-1232
*Calgary 403-297-6423
Camrose 780-679-1225
Cardston 403-653-4331
Coronation (Tue. Wed. every
other Thu.) 403-578-3223
Drumheller 403-823-1670
Foremost (1:00 – 4:30) 403-867-3826
Hanna (Tue. Wed. every
other Thu.) 403-854-5540
Lethbridge 403-381-5266
Lloydminster (9:00 – 3:00 Mon. to
Wed.) 780-871-6495
Medicine Hat 403-529-3680
Olds (1:00 – 4:30) 403-556-4215
Oyen (Tue. Wed. every
other Thu.) 403-664-3614
Ponoka (8:15 – noon) 403-783-7093
Provost (1:00 – 4:30, Tue.;
8:15 – 4:30, Wed. Thu.) 780-753-2433
Red Deer 403-340-5142
Stettler (8:15 – noon) 403-742-7510
Strathmore 403-934-3422
Vegreville (8:15 – 4:30, Mon. Tue.;
8:15 – noon, Wed.) 780-632-5410
Vermilion 780-853-8137
Vulcan 403-485-6971
Wetaskiwin 780-361-1250

*Regional Office

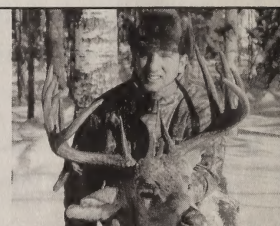
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- representing hunters wishes in the annual creation of hunting regulations.

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1st Prize: 12-Day N.W.T. Dall Sheep/Mountain Caribou hunt for one person with Gana River Outfitters. Additional hunting opportunities include Wolf and Wolverine. Valued at \$18,190.00. Hunting dates are Aug. 10-21, 2005 from Norman Wells, N.W.T.

2nd Prize: 7-Day NWT Central Barren Ground Caribou hunt for two for 1 caribou each with True North Safaris. Additional hunting opportunities include Wolf, Wolverine, Ptarmigan and a 2nd Caribou. Fishing opportunities available for Arctic Grayling, Lake Trout and Northern Pike. Valued at \$11,085.95. Hunting dates will fall between Aug. 20 and Sept. 22, 2005 from Yellowknife, N.W.T.

3rd Prize: 2-Day Canmore Getaway Fishing Trip for Two People on the Bow River and Spray Lakes with Wapiti Sports & Outfitters. Includes two nights accommodations, meals, a one-day float trip for Brown Trout on the Bow River and a one day trip on Spray Lakes for Lake Trout. Valued at \$1,598.00. Fishing dates open between June 1 and Aug. 31, 2005 from Canmore, AB.

Proceeds to Alberta Fish & Game Association Wildlife Trust Fund to Purchase Critical Fish & Wildlife Habitat in Alberta

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780-437-2342
or send cheque or money order to the Alberta Fish & Game Association, 6924-104 Street, Edmonton, AB T6H 2L7

Alberta Fish & Game Association Wildlife Trust Fund Initiative. All proceeds go towards purchasing critical wildlife habitat in Alberta. Tickets are \$20.00 each or 6 for \$100.00. Only 5000 Tickets Printed. Draw date: May 2, 2005 at AFGA office. Prize must be accepted as awarded. Must be 18 years of age (Restrictions Apply). Tickets will be sold within Alberta only. Raffle Licence # 209496

ALBERTA FISH & GAME ASSOCIATION - WILDLIFE TRUST FUND 6th ANNUAL DREAM HUNT RAFFLE TICKET

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Address: _____

City: _____ PC: _____

Number of tickets: _____ 1 for \$20 or 6 for \$100

Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Cheque/Money Order ☐

Card Number _____ Expiry _____

Licence # 209496

Mail to: AFGA, 6924 - 104 Street, Edmonton, AB T6H 2L7 or fax 780-438-6872

Alberta Fish and Game Association 6924 - 104 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T6H 2L7
Phone: (780) 437-2342 Fax: (780) 438-6872 E-mail: office@afga.org Web site: www.afga.org

Prohibitions

Note: *Convictions for certain offences will result in the suspension of all recreational hunting licences for a period of 1 to 3 years, and may result in a suspension for as long as 5 or more years. This is in addition to the assessment of a fine, an order and/or imprisonment.*

Loaded Firearms — A firearm in or on a vehicle, aircraft or boat is considered loaded if it has live ammunition in the breech, chamber or magazine, unless cartridges are in a magazine that is not attached to the firearm. See Item 7 below for further information.

General

It is unlawful to

1. carry or use another person's licence or tag or allow another person to use your licence or tag.
2. harass, injure or kill any wildlife with a vehicle, aircraft or boat.
3. hunt any wildlife with or from an aircraft, or communicate, for the purpose of hunting, the signs or whereabouts of wildlife seen during a flight on an aircraft.
4. transport dead wildlife taken by others without an accompanying bill of lading (letter of authorization) signed by the licence or permit holder and providing the following details:
 - the kind and number of the licence under which the wildlife was killed or possessed,
 - a description of the wildlife,
 - the points of origin and destination, and
 - the date on which the wildlife is to be transported.
5. set out, use or employ any of the following items for the purpose of **hunting any wildlife**:
 - an arrow equipped with an explosive head,
 - a firearm that is capable of firing more than one bullet during one pressure of the trigger or a firearm that can be altered to operate as such,
 - a light,
 - a shotgun of a gauge greater than 10,
 - a device designed to deaden the sound of the report of a firearm,
 - recorded wildlife calls or sounds, or an electrically operated calling device,
 - a pistol or revolver,
 - live wildlife,
 - a swivel set or spring gun, or
 - a poisonous substance or an immobilizing drug.
6. allow the edible meat of any game bird or big game animal — except cougar, grizzly bear or black bear — to be wasted, destroyed, spoiled or abandoned.
7. have a loaded firearm (live ammunition in breech, chamber or magazine) in or on, or discharge a **weapon** from
 - a boat unless the boat is propelled by muscular power or is at anchor and the person is hunting, or
 - any kind of aircraft or vehicle whether it is moving or stationary.

Note: Ammunition may be carried in a magazine that is not attached to the firearm. Contact a local police service for more information regarding federal firearms legislation.
8. discharge a **weapon** within 183 m (200 yards) or cause a projectile from a **weapon** to pass within 183 m (200 yards) of any occupied building. Owners, occupants, or persons authorized by the owner or occupant are excepted, subject to local bylaws.
9. discharge a firearm from or cause a projectile from a firearm to pass

along or across:

- a primary highway,
 - a road allowance containing a road that is paved, oiled, graded or regularly maintained, unless
 - the road is held under any active disposition under the *Public Lands Act* or under an order under the *Surface Rights Act*, or
 - the person is hunting game birds with a shotgun under the authority of a licence.
10. hunt any wildlife while impaired by alcohol or drugs.
 11. hunt any wildlife or **discharge a firearm** between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise. (See sunrise/sunset table on page 40).
 12. alter, destroy or remove any sign or notice that has been posted under the authority of the *Wildlife Act*, *Petty Trespass Act* or the *Migratory Birds Regulations*.
 13. hunt any wildlife or discharge any firearm on or over occupied land or enter on to such land for the purpose of doing so without the consent of the owner or occupant of the land (page 23).
NOTE: There is an additional requirement affecting access for guided hunts (page 24).
 14. possess a firearm of a calibre larger than .22 in a helicopter over WMUs 400-446.
 15. hunt with a firearm if you are under 18 years of age and not accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or by a person 18 years of age or older who has the written permission of the parent or legal guardian. See page 22 for Canadian Firearms Centre contact information.
 16. disturb traps, sets or trapping cabins.

Big Game

It is unlawful to

1. set out, use or employ any of the following items for the purpose of **hunting big game**:
 - ammunition of less than .23 calibre,
 - ammunition that contains non-expanding bullets,
 - an auto-loading firearm that has the capacity to hold more than 5 cartridges in the magazine,
 - a shotgun having a gauge of .410 or less,
 - a shotgun in a bird sanctuary,
 - bait, except as permitted for the hunting of black bears (page 33),
 - an arrow other than an authorized arrow (page 32),
 - a bow other than an authorized bow (page 32),
 - a muzzle-loading firearm of less than .44 calibre,

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BLUE CREEK

OUTFITTING RENTAL CORP.

- a rifle or shotgun in WMUs 212, 248 or 410 (persons hunting under the authority of a Strathcona White-tailed Deer Licence, a Foothills Deer Licence, or an Antlerless Moose Special Licence in Strathcona County may hunt with a bow and arrow, cross-bow, muzzleloader or shotgun),
 - a trap,
 - a cross-bow and arrow that is not authorized (see page 57).
2. discharge a **weapon** at a big game animal while it is swimming.
 3. discharge an arrow from a bow at big game, from, along or across a highway or road specified in Item 9 on page 12.
 4. be accompanied by a dog while hunting big game or allow a dog to pursue big game except when hunting cougar under the authority of a Cougar Licence.
 5. possess the carcass of a male elk, male antelope or male non-trophy sheep unless the complete skull plate, with horns or antlers intact, is also retained with the carcass until it is delivered to
 - the usual residence of the person who killed it, and the animal is butchered, cut and packaged for consumption, or
 - a premises in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or a Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act*.
 6. possess the carcass of a calf moose taken under authority of a Calf Moose Special Licence unless its head is also retained with the carcass until it is delivered to
 - the usual residence of the person who killed it, and the animal is butchered, cut and packaged for consumption, or
 - a premises in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or a Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act*.
 7. allow the skin of any grizzly bear, black bear or cougar taken under the authority of a licence, to be wasted, destroyed, spoiled or abandoned.
 8. remove the distinctive evidence of sex and species from the carcass of any big game until the carcass is delivered to
 - the usual residence of the person who killed it, and the animal is butchered, cut and packaged for consumption, or
 - a premises in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or a Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act*.

In the case of grizzly bear and cougar, the evidence of sex must remain attached and be retained until the animal has been registered (page 31).
 9. remove the tag from the carcass of a big game animal until authorized (as outlined on page 31).
 10. hunt:
 - a grizzly bear under the age of two years,
 - a grizzly bear that is part of a group of two or more grizzly bears,
 - a black bear under the age of one year,
 - a female black bear accompanied by a cub under the age of one year,
 - a female cougar accompanied by a kitten with spotted fur, or
 - a cougar kitten with spotted fur.
 11. transport big game hunters, except those requiring medical aid, or big game by helicopter over WMUs 400-446.
 12. land or take off in a fixed-wing aircraft that is carrying big game, big game hunters or firearms of a calibre larger than .22 at or from any location in WMUs 400-446 except those locations where aircraft routinely land and take off.
 13. hunt big game within 6 hours of having disembarked from an aircraft, except for a jet or turbo-propelled aircraft.

14. hunt big game on Sundays except in WMUs 357-360, 521-523, 526, 527, 535, 537 or in the Green Area portions of WMUs 326, 328, 347, 349-356, 416-437, 440-446, 503, 511-520, 524, 525, 528-534, 536, 539-544 and 841.

Game Bird

It is unlawful to

1. hunt game birds during an open season for male pheasants within designated pheasant release sites after 2:00 p.m., except Saturdays.
2. possess, before it has been transported to the usual residence of the person who killed it, a game bird which does not bear evidence of sex and species. Evidence of sex and species consists of one completely feathered wing attached to the carcass of the game bird, except for Merriam's turkey for which evidence of sex and species consists of the complete head and beard attached to the carcass (see page 50 for tagging instructions for Merriam's turkey).
3. hunt a migratory game bird with a firearm loaded with a single bullet.
4. hunt any game bird using:
 - a shotgun in which the magazine and chamber combined will hold more than three rounds of ammunition,
 - a trap, or
 - bait.

Note: see item 12 (below) for additional restrictions for hunting Merriam's turkey.
5. have more than one shotgun, for personal use, at any time while hunting migratory game birds unless each shotgun, in excess of one, is unloaded and disassembled or unloaded and cased.
6. hunt game birds in WMU 410 with other than a bow and arrow or falconry bird.
7. hunt game birds in WMU 212 or 248 with other than a bow and arrow, a cross-bow, shotgun or falconry bird.
8. exceed the daily or possession limit for any game bird (see game bird bag limits on page 52).
9. hunt game birds within 400 m (1/4 mi.) of a baited lure area operated under the Crop Damage Control Program.
10. transport migratory game birds belonging to others unless the carcasses are affixed with a tag showing:
 - the signature, name and address of the owner,
 - the licence number under which the bird was taken, and
 - the date the birds were taken.
11. fail to make every effort possible to immediately retrieve a migratory game bird that a person has killed or wounded. A hunter must have adequate means to retrieve any migratory bird that he or she may kill, cripple or injure.
12. hunt Merriam's turkey using:
 - a weapon other than a shotgun, cross-bow or a bow and arrow,
 - a shotgun with a bore diameter smaller than 20 gauge, or
 - shot size smaller than No. 6 shot or larger than No. 2 shot.
13. remove the tag from a Merriam's turkey until authorized (page 50).
14. hunt game birds on Sundays except
 - a) in the Green Area portions of WMUs 326, 328, 347, 349-356, 360, 416-437, 440-446, 503, 511-521, 523-544 and 841,
 - b) in those portions of WMUs 360, 521, 523, 526, 527, 535 and 537 that are not in the Green Area as respects the hunting of upland game birds,
 - c) in WMUs 357, 358, 359 and 522 as respects the hunting of upland game birds,

- d) in WMUs 728 and 730 as respects the hunting of sharp-tailed grouse and ruffed grouse, or
- e) while hunting white geese during the regular open season.

LICENSING

Licence System

IBM manages the sale of all recreational hunting and fishing licences in Alberta. Licences are sold exclusively through private licence issuers (e.g., sporting goods stores, convenience stores and gas stations) in communities throughout Alberta. Licences are not sold at Fish and Wildlife Division offices.

The automated system integrates all recreational licensing services, providing better service to hunters, anglers and licence issuers. Licence issuers print all licences and tags at point of sale. The system provides the Fish and Wildlife Division with important, up-to-date information about the hunters and anglers in the province.

To locate a licence issuer in your area of Alberta, contact the RELM (Recreational Licensing Management) Call Centre, toll-free in North America, at 1-888-944-5494, or go to the Hunting in Alberta website (see page 10).

Wildlife Identification Number (WIN)

Hunters and anglers in Alberta must possess a 10-digit Wildlife Identification Number (WIN) before applying for or purchasing any licence or wildlife certificate. The number is valid for five years and can be purchased for \$8.00.

If you are purchasing a WIN for the first time, the licence issuer gives you a paper receipt (which includes your new number) allowing you to purchase licences immediately. Your plastic card will be mailed to you within a few weeks.

If you purchased your WIN card in 1998 or 1999, you will be required to renew your WIN in 2004. Once your WIN has expired you must renew your WIN in order to purchase any 2004 licences. You can renew your WIN at any licence issuer for \$8.00 for another five years.

If you have any questions about the WIN or the licensing system, please contact the RELM Call Centre, toll-free in North America, at 1-888-944-5494.

Please bring your WIN card!

Please bring your card when you purchase licences. The plastic WIN card allows the licence issuer to provide you with faster more efficient service.

Change of Address

All hunters should ensure their address and telephone number on their licence is correct. To update your mailing address, call (toll-free in North America) 1-888-944-5494, or fill out a WIN Application form at your local licence issuer.

What is required to be eligible to hunt in Alberta?

Hunters in Alberta should be aware of federal regulations pertaining to possession and use of firearms (page 22), and provincial regulations pertaining to licensing of hunters. There are regulations that pertain to first-time hunters, youths, residents, non-residents and non-resident aliens.

All hunters must have a Wildlife Identification Number (WIN) as a prerequisite to applying for, or purchasing any hunting licence but some additional requirements must be met for the WIN-holder to be eligible to purchase hunting licences.

A person must possess a valid Wildlife Certificate and the applicable hunting licence in order to hunt big game or game birds. The hunter must carry the licence and applicable tag(s) on his or her person while hunting. A person applying for a draw is not required to possess a Wildlife Certificate but must purchase one before purchasing any hunting licence.

Licensing requirements for first-time hunters

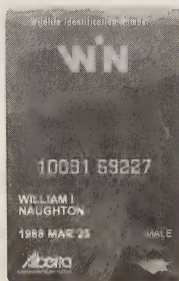
A first-time hunter is a hunter who 1) has not previously held a hunting licence in Alberta or elsewhere, or 2) has not passed a hunter competency test in Alberta or elsewhere, or 3) has not successfully completed a hunter education course in Alberta or elsewhere.

Non-resident and non-resident alien hunters (12 years of age or older) are exempt from the first-time hunter eligibility requirement if they are accompanied by a Hunter Host or a Designated Guide while hunting in Alberta.

Adult first-time hunters who have not previously held a hunting licence

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in Alberta or elsewhere, have an option of completing the Alberta Conservation and Hunter Education course, or passing the Alberta Hunter Competency exam.

Youth first-time hunters (12 to 17 years of age) have two options, depending on age. First-time hunters **under 14 years of age** must complete the Alberta Conservation and Hunter Education course. Those **14 to 17 years of age** have the option of completing the Alberta Conservation and Hunter Education course **or** successfully completing the Alberta Hunter Competency exam. A youth must be **at least 12 years old** to hunt under the authority of any hunting licence in Alberta. All hunters **under the age of 16 years** must have written permission from a parent or guardian to purchase hunting licences. Hunters who are **11 years old** may apply in the draws for licences if they meet the above criteria but they must be 12 years old anytime before or during the open season for that draw. They may not hunt until they are **12 years old**. Youths who are **12 or 13 years old** may hunt game birds with any legal weapon (see game bird prohibitions, page 13), but may **ONLY HUNT BIG GAME WITH A BOW AND ARROW OR A CROSS-BOW**. To hunt with a firearm, hunters **14 to 17 years of age** must be accompanied by a parent, a legal guardian or by a person 18 years of age or older who has the written permission of the parent or legal guardian.

If you are interested in taking the Alberta Conservation and Hunter Education course, call the Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association toll-free in Alberta at 1-866-852-4342, Edmonton 780-466-6682, or Calgary 403-252-8474.

Resident Youth Hunting Licences

Subject to the age limitations and conditions above, a resident 12 to 17 years of age may purchase a Resident Youth Wildlife Certificate, including a Game Bird Licence, for \$6.25. The holder of a valid Resident Youth Wildlife Certificate who has not yet attained the age of 18 years may also purchase a Youth White-tailed Deer Licence and a Youth Mule Deer Licence, each for \$6.25. **These licences are valid during the seasons that do not require one of the Special Licences obtained through a draw.** This person may also purchase an Antlerless Mule Deer Special Licence (available through a draw, see Draws for Special Licences, below) for \$6.00. Partner Licences are also available to resident youths if designated by the holder of any special licence. See page 16.

Where Your Money Goes

A portion of the price of each **hunting licence** is a levy established by the Alberta Conservation Association to help finance wildlife rehabilitation programs, the enhancement of other wildlife management programs and the

continued on page 16

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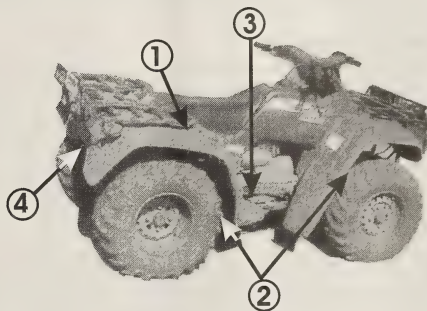
about wildfires and your off highway vehicle (OHV)

Every year thousands of people visit Alberta's forests to enjoy a range of recreational activities. As the popularity of off highway vehicles increases, so does the number of wildfires they cause.

Here's how a fire starts

- Your OHV exhaust system heats up to the ignition threshold of forest fuels.
- At these temperatures any debris, such as grass and twigs, can ignite.
- Smouldering debris can then fall from your OHV and start a wildfire.

Here's some of the hot spots



- ① Under the seat
- ② Wheel wells
- ③ Engine and manifold
- ④ Exhaust and muffler systems

Here's what you can do

Before hitting the trail, clear out any burnable debris, such as grass and muskeg, from your OHV's hot spots. Also make sure your muffler is in good working order and your OHV has proper spark arrestors.



To report a wildfire call 310-FIRE

Report A Poacher Program. Another portion goes to General Revenue and the remainder is a transaction fee that goes to IBM to finance the administration of the licensing system. This system collects valuable information about the use of our wildlife resource. The government uses this data for setting season dates, licence quotas and other regulations. For complete information on fee break down, contact Licensing and Revenue Services at (780) 427-5185.

Mobility-impaired Hunters

Eligible individuals may obtain a special permit or licence relating to off-highway vehicle (OHV) use, discharging a weapon from an OHV and bow and arrow equipment. Contact a Fish and Wildlife Division office (page 10) for more information.

Mandatory Hunter Testing

A person, whose right to hold a recreational hunting licence has been suspended as a result of a conviction, is required to pass a hunter-competency test before obtaining another recreational hunting licence. This test, which differs from the test given to first-time hunters, must be taken after the beginning of the suspension period. Mandatory hunter testing is intended to increase outdoor safety, awareness, skills and efficiency and to develop responsible attitudes in the field. Dates and times for testing are available at Fish and Wildlife Division offices (page 10).

Draws for Special Licences

When demand for hunting opportunities becomes excessive, season length and bag limits are often insufficient to conserve a game resource or to ensure a quality hunting experience. In such cases, the Fish and Wildlife Division conducts lotteries or draws among eligible applicants for a limited number of special licences. Special licences allow successful applicants to hunt a specific type of game (e.g., antlerless elk) in defined areas during a specified season.

Only residents and, to a lesser extent, non-residents (Canadian) are eligible to apply in these draws. A non-refundable \$3.04 (plus GST) levy is charged for each application or group of applicants (maximum of four) for the same draw. This levy goes to the Alberta Conservation Association for its Buck for Wildlife Program.

Although draws are used for specific wildlife management purposes (e.g., the goal in antlered mule deer draw areas is to develop a more balanced age structure in the herd by controlling the kill of bucks), other benefits include improved hunter success, increased opportunity to harvest a trophy animal, a more pleasant hunting experience with lower hunter densities, reduced disturbance of landowners, and a better distribution of the harvest.

Draw Application Deadline Dates — Hunters interested in special licence hunts for fall 2004 must have applied by June 24. The application period for the 2005 spring Merriam's turkey hunt is January 5 to January

27, 2005. Application dates for grizzly bear will be determined at a later date. Refer to the *2004 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet for more information on how to apply for these draws.

Hunters interested in the draw seasons for 2005 should obtain the *2005 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet and apply during the month of June 2005. The booklet is mailed to draw applicants from the previous two years. For hunters who do not receive a copy in the mail, copies are available at licence issuers and your local Fish and Wildlife Division office.

Draw Results — Written notification of your draw results are sent in the mail. However, beginning July 13, you may call **1-900-451-DRAW** (\$0.75 for each minute) to determine your success in the draws. All you need is a touch-tone telephone and your WIN. Results for antelope and goat draws are available August 10.

For information on the Draws for Special Licences, call 1-877-289-0999, toll-free.

Landowner Special Licence

A person who qualifies may be eligible to obtain a special licence after having been unsuccessful in some draws. Availability of Landowner Special Licences may be limited or not available at all for some species in certain WMUs. Those available will be issued to eligible persons on a first-come, first-served basis. For details on eligibility and the application process, please consult the *2004 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet.

Partner Licence

The following Partner Licences are available:

1. A resident holder of an **Antlerless Moose** Special Licence has the option of designating one eligible resident hunter (adult or youth) to be a partner on the Special Licence, thereby allowing the designated hunter to obtain a Special Antlerless Moose Partner Licence.
2. A resident holder of an **Antlered Moose** Special Licence has the option of designating one eligible hunter, either a resident (adult or youth) or a non-resident (Canadian) (adult or youth), to be a partner on the Special Licence, thereby allowing the designated hunter to obtain a Special Antlered Moose Partner Licence. To qualify for a Partner Licence in a particular WMU, the non-resident (Canadian) must have been eligible to apply for the Special Licence in that WMU.
A non-resident (Canadian) holder of an Antlered Moose Special Licence obtained through the draw process has the option of designating one eligible resident (adult or youth) hunter to be a partner on the Special Licence, thereby allowing the designated hunter to obtain a Special Antlered Moose Partner Licence.
3. Resident hunters successful in drawing a Special Licence in any of the other Draws may designate one eligible resident youth (12 to 17 years of age) to be a partner on their Special Licence.

Rules for all Partners — A designated partner does not need any priority to qualify for a partner licence, does not need to have applied on the draw, and the purchase of the partner licence will not affect any existing priority of the partner. The intended partner must be eligible to hold a hunting licence. Refer to pages 18-21 regarding licence combinations and restrictions. The primary licensee may designate a partner at any time until



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the end of the season for which the Special Licence is valid. The designated partner hunts under the authority of the special licence and must be in direct communication (not including the use of any electronic devices) with the primary special licence holder while hunting to ensure that both stop hunting once the tag(s) are filled. The two hunters hunt as one.

The primary licensee must carry the tag(s) issued with the special licence and must tag the animal as soon as there is a kill. The primary licensee may hunt without the partner, but not vice versa.

To Designate a Partner – The Partner Licence is available at any licence issuer. The intended partner must provide the licence issuer with the number of the Special Licence held by the primary hunter along with his or her own WIN. The Special Licence number authorizes the licensing system to issue a partner licence that is linked to the Special Licence. The intended partner may then purchase a Wildlife Certificate and the appropriate Partner Licence. If the intended partner is a non-resident, he/she must be accompanied by a licensed Hunter Host while hunting. The Partner Licence is valid for the same WMU and season as the Special Licence. No tag is issued with the Partner Licence.

**Outfitting and Guiding Requirements
for Non-residents (Canadian) and
Non-resident Aliens**

(see Definitions on pages 6 to 7).

There is no requirement for non-resident (Canadian) and non-resident alien game bird hunters to contract their **game bird** hunts through a Bird Game Outfitter-guide. However, those who do choose to hire an outfitter-guide for such a hunt must do so through the holder of a valid Bird Game Outfitter-guide Permit.

In this section, the term "accompany" or "accompanied" means that the persons involved are close enough to each other to easily facilitate verbal communications without the need for electronic devices. **It is acceptable, however, for the hunter to be placed in a stand location by the guide or hunter host, if they remain at that same location to be picked up later the same day.**

Non-resident (Canadian) and Non-resident Alien hunters of **big game, wolf and coyote must be accompanied by a licensed guide or a Hunter Host**. Each of these hunters has two options:

- 1) he or she may contract the holder of a valid Big Game Outfitter-guide Permit, be guided by a Big Game Designated Guide, and hunt under the authority of a licence allocated to an outfitter-guide (for information on outfitter-guides, contact the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society at <http://www.apos.ab.ca>), **OR**
- 2) he or she may be hosted by a Hunter Host (see below) – usually a relative or friend – and hunt according to the following restrictions and conditions:
 - Non-resident Aliens may hunt with any Hunter Host only if they have not done so in the previous two (2) fiscal years (April 1 - March 31).
 - Non-residents (Canadian) and Non-resident Aliens are limited to certain licences as indicated in the Licence Availability sections on pages 20 to 21.
 - Non-resident Aliens hosted by Hunter Hosts may hunt big game only during seasons that do not require one of the special licences, obtained through a draw, indicated by a ■ in the season tables on pages 34 to 47 or listed under Additional Special Licence Draw Hunts on page 48.
 - A Non-resident Alien and his or her intended Hunter Host must apply at a Fish and Wildlife Division office for their licences and make a statutory declaration that he or she understands the terms and conditions of the licences (see Hunter Host Licence on this page).
 - A Non-resident Alien must not hunt bighorn sheep, cougar or trophy antelope while accompanied by a Hunter Host.

- **Further Restrictions for Non-resident Aliens Who are Not Relatives of the Hunter Host or the Hunter Host's Spouse**
 - Relatives are defined as father, brother, son, uncle, nephew, grandfather, grandson, son-in-law, brother-in-law (and female equivalents) of the Hunter Host or spouse of the Hunter Host.
 - The Non-resident Alien and intended Hunter Host, if not related, must initiate an application at a Fish and Wildlife Division office for their licences, described above, by **August 31** of the licence year, or by the following **February 28** for the spring black bear hunt.
 - The Non-resident Alien may apply to hunt only two (2) species of big game.

A Hunter Host

- Must be an adult resident.
- Must be the holder of a valid WIN and Hunter Host Licence (below).
- **may not provide services for gain or reward, or accept remuneration, directly or indirectly, for such services.**
- may host a maximum of two (2) hunters/year, either Non-residents (Canadian), Non-resident Aliens or a combination thereof. If hosting 2 Non-resident Aliens, at least 1 must be a relative.
- may host Non-resident Aliens only if the host has not hosted a Non-resident Alien in the previous two (2) fiscal years (April 1 to March 31).
- must report to the Fish and Wildlife Division by December 31 in the year of harvest, all animals killed by the Non-resident Aliens he or she hosted.
- must accompany the hunter(s) named on his or her Hunter Host Licence while they are hunting big game under the authority of the Hunter Host Licence.

Hunter Host Licence

A resident who wishes to be a Hunter Host may purchase a Hunter Host Licence at any private licence issuer. You must have the WIN(s) of the non-resident(s) at the time of purchase. You **must** ensure that the hunters you host are named on your Hunter Host Licence. If you purchase your Hunter Host Licence naming one hunter and you decide to add a second hunter to your licence at a later date, you can do so at no additional charge. Return to a private licence issuer with your licence and have it amended. Once you have purchased your Hunter Host Licence, the hunters may purchase their licences.

A Hunter Host who plans to take a **non-resident alien** hunting must do the following:

1. Go to a Fish and Wildlife Division office (see page 10) and initiate an application (including statutory declaration). Sign it and have your signature sworn. If the Non-resident Alien is not a relative, you must start this process by August 31 or February 28 as described above.
2. Have the Non-resident Alien sign the application and have his or her signature sworn. (If the Non-resident Alien does not have a WIN, have him fill out a WIN application at the same time.)
3. Take the completed application to a Fish and Wildlife Division office. The application will be reviewed for final approval and keyed into the automated licensing system.
4. When you are notified that your application is approved, go to any private licence issuer and purchase your Hunter Host Licence (see above) and the appropriate Wildlife Certificate and licences.

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Resident Licence Costs and Combinations

NOTE: The 7% federal Goods and Services Tax (GST) is not included in the costs listed below.

Prior to purchasing any licence, each hunter must possess a valid WIN (see page 14) and a Wildlife Certificate which costs \$22.85 (or \$6.25 for a Resident Youth Wildlife Certificate, page 15). Hunters wishing to hunt with a bow and arrow must also purchase a Bowhunting Permit (not required for hunting with a cross-bow).

Licence	Price (\$)	Restrictions Applying to the Species	Maximum Licences Allowed Per Hunter
White-tailed Deer	31.75	A Resident Adult may obtain only 1 of the first 2 licences.	A Resident Adult or Youth may obtain 4 different licences from this list of 25, but not more than 1 licence from this list for any one species.
Antlered White-tailed Deer Special Licence	31.75		
Youth White-tailed Deer	6.25	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of the last 3 licences.	
Special Antlered White-tailed Deer Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00		
Mule Deer	31.75	A Resident Adult may obtain only 1 of the first 2 licences.	
Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence	31.75		
Youth Mule Deer	6.25	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of the last 3 licences.	
Special Antlered Mule Deer Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00		
Elk	31.75	A Resident Adult may obtain only 1 of the first 6 licences.	
WMU 300 Elk Special Licence	31.75		
Cypress Hills Elk Special Licence	31.75	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 10 licences.	
Cypress Hills Elk Archery ¹	31.75		
Antlerless Elk Special Licence	31.75		
Antlered Elk Special Licence	31.75		
Special WMU 300 Elk Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00		
Special Cypress Hills Elk Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00		
Special Antlerless Elk Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00	A Resident Adult may obtain only 1 of the first 6 licences.	
Special Antlered Elk Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00		
Moose	31.75		
Antlerless Moose Special Licence	31.75		
Antlered Moose Special Licence	31.75		
Calf Moose Special Licence	31.75	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 7 licences.	
Special Antlered Moose Partner Licence	10.00		
Special Antlerless Moose Partner Licence	10.00		
Special Calf Moose Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00		
Trophy Sheep	48.59	A Resident who killed a sheep, except a legal non-trophy sheep, in 2003 may not purchase a Trophy Sheep Licence in 2004.	A Resident Adult may obtain only 1 of the first 4 licences.
Trophy Sheep Special Licence	48.59		
WMU 410 Trophy Sheep Special Licence	48.59		A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 7 licences.
WMU 437 Trophy Sheep Special Licence	48.59		
Special WMU 410 Trophy Sheep Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00		
Special Trophy Sheep Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00		
Special WMU 437 Trophy Sheep Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00		

continued on next page



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Licence	Price (\$)	Restrictions Applying to the Species	Maximum Licences Allowed Per Hunter
Non-trophy Sheep Special Licence	25.08	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	A Resident Adult may obtain 1 of each of these 14 licences (excluding the Youth licences).
Special Non-trophy Sheep Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00		
Antlerless White-tailed Deer Special Licence	16.00	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	A Resident Youth may obtain 14 different licences from this list of 20, but not more than 1 licence from this list for any one species.
Special Antlerless White-tailed Deer Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00		
Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer ²	16.75		
Strathcona White-tailed Deer	16.00		
Foothills Deer ³	16.00		
Antlerless Mule Deer Special Licence (issued to a youth)	17.00 (6.00)	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Special Antlerless Mule Deer Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00		
Antlerless Deer (WMUs 212 & 248)	8.50		
Camp Wainwright Deer Special Licence	35.49	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Special Camp Wainwright Deer Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00		
WMU 212 Antlerless Elk Archery	16.75		
Black Bear	13.25		
Supplemental Black Bear ⁴	13.25		
Grizzly Bear Special Licence	48.59	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Special Grizzly Bear Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00		
Cougar	48.59		
Goat Special Licence ⁶	48.59	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Special Goat Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00		
Antelope Archery Special Licence	48.59	None	A Resident Adult may obtain only 1 of the first 3 licences.
Non-trophy Antelope Special Licence	16.75		
Trophy Antelope Special Licence	48.59		A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 6 licences.
Special Antelope Archery Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00		
Special Non-trophy Antelope Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00		
Special Trophy Antelope Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00		
Game Bird	8.46	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Pheasant	12.15		
Merriam's Turkey Special Licence	23.51	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Special Merriam's Turkey Partner Licence (Youth)	10.00		
Bowhunting Permit (not required for cross-bows)	7.00	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Hunter Host Licence	25.00		
WIN Renewal	8.00		
Licence Reprint	2.00		
Tag Reprint ⁵	4.00		
Replacement WIN Card	4.00		

¹ This licence is not valid during the Cypress Hills Elk Special Licence season for rifles.

² This licence is only valid in the following WMUs: 204, 206, 208, 214, 216, 220-228, 250, 258, 260, 310, 312, 322-356, 360, 436-446, 500-511, 520, 523-525, 528 and 534-544. The 2nd tag will only be valid in WMUs 258, 260, 500, 502, 503, 504, 506, 509 and 510.

³ When hunting under the authority of this licence, valid in WMU 212 only, hunters must carry written permission to hunt from a landowner involved.

⁴ This licence is only valid in the following WMUs where 2 black bear licences may be used: 224, 250, 258, 260, 320-360, 429, 445, 500-544 and 841.

⁵ A statutory declaration must be completed at a Fish and Wildlife Division office (see page 10).

⁶ As of 2002, drawn applicants will not be allowed to reapply in future years (once-in-a-lifetime opportunity).

Special Licences (listed above) are available only through draws which occurred in June of this year (except grizzly bear and Merriam's turkey, see page 16).

Please refer to the 2005 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet in June 2005 for information on how to apply in these draws next year.

Non-resident (Canadian) Licence Availability

All Non-resident hunters of big game, wolf or coyote require a Big Game Designated Guide or a Hunter Host. See Outfitting and Guiding Requirements on page 17.

Non-residents who hunt with a Hunter Host may obtain White-tailed Deer, Antlered Mule Deer, Antlered Moose, Antlered Elk, Black Bear, Supplemental Black Bear, Cougar, and Wolf/Coyote Licences (see table below) from private licence issuers. Some special licences may be obtained through the draw system that will be described in the *2004 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet available in June 2004.

Non-residents contracting a hunt with a Big Game Outfitter-guide may obtain Special Licences by using an allocation, available from their outfitter-guide. Wolf/Coyote licences can be purchased without an allocation. Non-residents using the services of an outfitter-guide must be guided by a Big Game Designated Guide.

Non-resident (Canadian) Licence Costs and Combinations

NOTE: The 7% federal Goods and Services Tax (GST) is not included in the costs listed below.

Prior to purchasing any licence, each hunter must possess a valid WIN (see page 14) and a Wildlife Certificate, which costs \$22.85. Hunters wishing to hunt with a bow and arrow must also purchase a Bowhunting Permit (not required for hunting with a cross-bow).

All **special** licences shown in the following table are available through a Big Game Outfitter-guide. Some are also available through the draw system.

Licence	Price (\$)	Restrictions Applying to the Species	Maximum Licences Allowed Per Hunter
White-tailed Deer	118.23	A Non-resident may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	A Non-resident may obtain 4 different licences from this list of 9, but not more than 1 licence for any one species.
Antlered White-tailed Deer Special Licence ¹	118.23		
Antlered Mule Deer	118.23	A Non-resident may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence ¹	118.23		
Antlered Elk	130.97	A Non-resident may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Antlered Elk Special Licence ¹	130.97		
Antlered Moose	130.97	A Non-resident may obtain only 1 of these 3 licences.	
Antlered Moose Special Licence ¹	130.97		
Special Antlered Moose Partner Licence	42.00		
Trophy Sheep Special Licence ^{1,2}	309.85	A Non-resident who killed a sheep in 2003 may not purchase a Trophy Sheep Special Licence in 2004.	A Non-resident may obtain 1 of each licence from this list of 3.
Wolf/Coyote	10.00	See page 48 for dates and restrictions.	
Trophy Antelope Special Licence ³	177.25	None	
Black Bear Licence	60.59	A Non-resident accompanied by a Hunter Host may obtain both of these licences.	A Non-resident may obtain 1 of each licence from this list of 2. However, Non-residents purchasing 1 of these two licences may not purchase a Black Bear Special Licence.
Supplemental Black Bear Licence ⁴	60.59		
Black Bear Special Licence ⁵	60.59	Non-residents must purchase this licence through an outfitter-guide.	Non-residents purchasing this licence may not purchase a Black Bear Licence or a Supplemental Black Bear Licence.
Cougar	130.97	Non-residents hunting with a Hunter Host.	1 licence only from this list of 2.
Cougar Special Licence	130.97	Non-residents must purchase this licence through an outfitter-guide.	
Bowhunting Permit (not required for cross-bows)	14.25	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
WIN Card Renewal	8.00		
Licence Reprint	2.00		
Tag Reprint ⁶	4.00		
Replacement WIN card	4.00		

¹ These licences are available through the draw system or through an outfitter-guide. Please refer to the sections that deal with Non-resident (Canadian) Licence Availability (at the top of this page) and Outfitting and Guiding Requirements (page 17).

Footnotes continued on next page

- ² Non-resident Trophy Sheep Special Licences are available through Class S Outfitter-guides or through a draw. Only 2 licences are available through a draw, and each hunter successful in the draw must be accompanied by a Hunter Host.
- ³ Non-resident Trophy Antelope Special Licences are available through an outfitter-guide or through a draw. Please refer to the sections that deal with Non-resident (Canadian) Licence Availability (page 20) and Outfitting and Guiding Requirements (page 17).
- ⁴ This licence is valid only in the following WMUs where 2 black bear licences may be used: 224, 250, 258, 260, 320-360, 429, 445, 500-544 and 841. Please see page 33 for more information.
- ⁵ These licences are valid for 2 black bears if the Outfitter-Guide's allocation is valid for a WMU where the Supplemental Black Bear Licence is valid (i.e., 2-bear areas).
- ⁶ A Statutory declaration must be completed at a Fish and Wildlife Division office (see page 10).

Non-resident Alien Licence Availability

All Non-resident Alien hunters of big game, wolf or coyote require either a Big Game Designated Guide or a Hunter Host. See Outfitting and Guiding Requirements on page 17.

Non-resident Aliens who hunt with a Hunter Host may obtain Antlered White-tailed Deer, Antlered Mule Deer, Antlered Moose, Antlered Elk, Black Bear Special Licences and Wolf/Coyote Licences (see table below) from licence issuers. See Outfitting and Guiding Requirements on page 17 for a summary of the circumstances under which these licences may be used and the limitations that apply.

Non-resident Aliens contracting a hunt with a Big Game Outfitter-guide must obtain Special Licences by using an allocation, available from their outfitter-guide. Wolf/Coyote licences can be purchased without an allocation. Non-resident Aliens using the services of an outfitter-guide must be guided by a Big Game Designated Guide.

Non-resident Alien Licence Costs and Combinations

NOTE: The 7% federal Goods and Services Tax (GST) is not included in the costs listed below.

Prior to purchasing any licence, each hunter must possess a valid WIN (see page 14) and a Wildlife Certificate, which costs \$22.85. Hunters wishing to hunt with a bow and arrow must also purchase a Bowhunting Permit (not required for hunting with a cross-bow).

Licence	Price (\$)	Restrictions Applying to the Species	Maximum Licences Allowed Per Hunter
Antlered White-tailed Deer Special Licence	182.68 ¹	None	A Non-resident Alien may obtain 1 of each licence from this list of 9.
Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence	182.68 ¹		
Antlered Elk Special Licence	247.77 ¹		
Antlered Moose Special Licence	247.77 ¹		
Black Bear Special Licence ²	75.89 ¹		
Trophy Sheep Special Licence ³	309.85 ¹	A Non-resident Alien who killed a sheep in 2003 may not purchase a Trophy Sheep Special Licence in 2004.	
Cougar Special Licence ³	247.77 ¹	None	
Wolf/Coyote Licence	10.00 ¹	See page 48 for wolf and coyote season dates and restrictions.	
Trophy Antelope Special Licence ³	222.77 ¹	None	
Bowhunting Permit (not required for cross-bows)	21.00	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
WIN Card Renewal	8.00		
Licence Reprint	2.00		
Tag Reprint ⁴	4.00		

¹ If purchased through an outfitter-guide, or the Alberta Professional Outfitter Society, an additional service fee is charged.

² This licence is valid for 2 black bears where the Resident and Non-resident (Canadian) Supplemental Black Bear Licences are valid (2-bear areas).

- 3 Trophy Sheep, Cougar and Trophy Antelope Special Licences are available to Non-resident Aliens only through an outfitter-guide.
- 4 A statutory declaration must be completed at a Fish and Wildlife Division office (see page 10).

GAME BIRD LICENCES

In addition to a WIN and a Wildlife Certificate, game bird hunters require:

- a Game Bird Licence to hunt grouse, partridge and ptarmigan;
- a Game Bird Licence and a Pheasant Licence to hunt pheasant;
- a Game Bird Licence and a Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit to hunt waterfowl;
- a Merriam's Turkey Special Licence and a Game Bird Licence to hunt Merriam's turkey.

(NOTE: Merriam's Turkey Special Licences are available only through a draw. See page 50 for more information.)



Fish & Wildlife

NOTE: The 7% federal Goods and Services Tax (GST) is not included in the costs listed below.

Prior to purchasing any licence, each hunter must possess a valid WIN (see page 14) and a Wildlife Certificate. The Wildlife Certificate costs \$22.85 (or \$6.25 for a Resident Youth Wildlife Certificate, page 15). Hunters wishing to hunt with a bow and arrow (but not a cross-bow) must also purchase a Bowhunting Permit.

Licence Costs

Game Bird Licence	Price (\$)		
	Resident	Non-resident (Canadian)	Non-resident Alien
Game Bird	8.46	29.51	105.89
3-Day Game Bird	Not Applicable	20.25	75.58
Pheasant	12.15	18.18	18.18
Merriam's Turkey Special Licence ¹	23.51	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Bowhunting Permit	7.00	14.25	21.00
WIN Card Renewal	8.00	8.00	8.00
Licence Reprint	2.00	2.00	2.00
Tag Reprint ²	4.00	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit ³	17.00	17.00	17.00

¹ Available only through a draw, page 50.

² A statutory declaration must be completed at a Fish and Wildlife Division office (see page 10).

³ Available at Post Offices and certain private licence issuers. See *Hunting in Alberta* website (page 10).

FEDERAL FIREARMS LEGISLATION

All hunters should be aware of federal laws surrounding the acquisition, possession, transportation and use of weapons and ammunition. For further information contact your local police service or the Canadian Firearms Centre at 1-800-731-4000 or visit the Centre's website at <http://www.cfc.gc.ca/>.

EXPORTING

Alberta Export Permit

All big game, game birds, and furbearing animals (except tanned skins) require a provincial export permit (**\$20.00**) when they are to be conveyed beyond the borders of Alberta, except under the following conditions:

1. Hunters, who lawfully harvest game birds, coyotes, white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose, pronghorn antelope or black bear* under the authority of a hunting licence or a right that is protected under Canadian Constitution, may export those species without an Alberta export permit if
 - in the case of game birds, the bird has been processed as a mounted specimen, or
 - the export occurs within 30 days of the date the animal was killed or within 5 days of the close of the season, whichever occurs first, and
 - the shipment is accompanied by the hunter who killed the animal, and
 - the appropriate licence is carried by the hunter who killed the animal

being exported.

* Alberta prohibits the export of gall bladder and paws of black bear. You may export red meat, hide with claws attached, head or skull with teeth attached, but no other parts. See CITES Export Permit at top of next page.

2. Coyote that have been lawfully hunted by residents do not require a provincial export permit.

Note: United States migratory bird hunting regulations state that it is unlawful for a person to import into the United States migratory game birds belonging to another person. Evidence of sex and species must remain attached to the bird until the final U.S. destination is reached.

For further information on the export of wildlife contact a Fish and Wildlife Division office (page 10).

continued on page 23

CITES Export Permit

Persons exporting cougar, grizzly bear or wolf to points outside Canada must obtain a federal export permit issued in accordance with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES). In addition, provincial export permits must be obtained for exporting these species, except for tanned wolf skin. All black bear require CITES export permits, except for those exported by United States hunters as noted on this page. Black bears do not require the provincial export permit if they are exported as described in the Alberta Export Permit section.

U.S. Black Bear Hunters – A CITES export permit is no longer required for U.S. hunters to take their black bear hunting trophy in a fresh, frozen or salted condition, back home at the conclusion of their hunt. The trophy must be part of the accompanying baggage of the hunter who killed the animal. This exemption does not apply to taxidermized trophies. All provincial export requirements still apply (see Alberta Export Permit section) and the trophy and documentation must be presented to Customs at the border when

the hunters exit. Only the following parts of black bear may be exported: red meat, the hide with claws still attached, the head or skull with teeth attached, but no other parts. Alberta prohibits the export of the gall bladder or paws of black bear. Note that the CITES permit exemption for fresh black bear trophies applies only to U.S. hunters returning home and not to other hunters. An individual must not sell or dispose of the black bear within 90 days after the date on which the CITES exemption is claimed.

Other circumstances for Black Bear: Claws of black bear may not be exported from Alberta if they are separated from the whole skin. Partial skins of black bear that are processed (tanned or otherwise permanently preserved), black bear skulls with teeth attached (when not being shipped with a hunter returning home as described above) or taxidermized black bear skins may still be exported but only under a provincial export permit with a CITES permit. An unprocessed black bear skin that is not part of a returning hunter's baggage may still be shipped but requires both provincial and CITES export permits.

SALE OF WILDLIFE

The selling, buying, bartering, soliciting or trading in wildlife or wildlife parts, or offering to do so, is regulated under the *Wildlife Act* and Regulations. Many transactions are strictly prohibited, while others are regulated. For further information, contact a Fish and Wildlife Division office (page 10).

FOUND DEAD WILDLIFE

When driving or walking, hunters often find dead wildlife that they would like to keep. In most cases it is unlawful to possess such wildlife or parts of wildlife without first obtaining a permit. To apply for such a permit, contact a Fish and Wildlife Division office (page 10).

HUNTING PRIVILEGES ON OCCUPIED, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC LAND

Access to Public and Private Lands

Except under authority of a Game Bird Shooting Ground Licence, it is unlawful to directly or indirectly buy or sell, trade or barter, or offer to buy or sell access to any land for the purpose of hunting any big game, furbearing animals or game birds.

Hunting on privately owned lands without permission is a problem in Alberta. It generates anti-hunting sentiment among landowners and results in the prosecution of more than 200 hunters each year. They should leave gates as they find them, avoid damaging facilities or property, avoid disturbing livestock and establish friendly relations with landholders.

NOTE: There has been an important change to the *Petty Trespass Act*. See page 24.

Although there is a moral obligation to pursue wounded game and a legal requirement to ensure game is retrieved and not wasted or abandoned, these obligations do not override the legal requirement to get permission to enter private land.

Recreational Access to Public Lands Leased for Grazing

In 2003, the Alberta Government passed new legislation clarifying the rules for recreational access on public lands leased for grazing and cultivation. While the new rules provide for "reasonable access" on foot, recreational users are required to contact the leaseholder prior to your visit. The legislation applies to approximately 5 million acres of agricultural lease land. Only a very small amount of leased agricultural land is located in the forested area of the popular foothills area of the province. Forest grazing allotments are not effected by this requirement for contact from the recreational user.

It is the recreational user's responsibility to know whether the land you wish to access is publicly or privately owned. You are required to contact the leaseholder to ensure the leaseholder has some basic information about your visit, and you can provide reasons why access may be limited. More details about the rules and contact information are available on a new website (<http://www3.gov.ab.ca/srd/land/reaccess/>). This website provides information on the location of agricultural public lands, along with contact information. You can also call the local Public Lands and Forests Division office or a toll-free hotline at 1-866-279-0023 for more information.



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Wildlife Act

Section 38 of the *Wildlife Act* specifies that no person shall hunt wildlife or discharge firearms on or over occupied lands, or enter onto such lands for the purpose of doing so without the consent of the owner or occupant.

The *Wildlife Act* defines “occupied lands” as follows:

- privately owned lands under cultivation or enclosed by a fence of any kind and not exceeding one section in area on which the owner or occupant actually resides, and
- any other privately owned land that is within 1.6 km (1 mi.) of the section referred to in clause (a) and that is owned or leased by the same owner or occupant.

The occupied lands described in the above legislation do not need to be posted with signs to receive protection under Section 38 of the *Wildlife Act*.

The black area in the map (right) shows an example of nine square miles of land that could contain land falling within the definition of “occupied lands.”

Petty Trespass Act

Amendments to the *Petty Trespass Act* came into force June 1, 2004. While it is still possible for a landowner to prohibit entry onto his or her land by giving oral or written notice or by posting signs prohibiting entry, the amendments now set out certain kinds of property where entry is prohibited without any notice required. These lands include those privately owned lands (and leased public lands not associated with grazing or cultivation – these are addressed on page 60) that are under cultivation, fenced or enclosed by a natural boundary or enclosed in a manner that indicates the landholder’s intention to keep people off the premises or animals on the premises. **Importantly, hunters or others who access those lands must have permission before entering.**

31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

Potentially Occupied Lands
X Residence

Federal Criminal Code

The **Criminal Code** (Section 41) provides that a person in peaceable possession of real property can require a trespasser to vacate the property.

Access for Guiding

A Hunter Host, Big Game Designated Guide or Bird Game Designated Guide, when guiding on any privately held land, requires permission authorizing access from the landholder for conducting those guiding services on that land. Such a guide or host is required to carry on his person the landholder’s name, address (or legal land location of landholder’s residence) and telephone number.

Access for Control of Livestock Predation Black Bear and Coyote*

Any person who is (a) the owner or occupant of privately owned land, or (b) authorized to keep livestock on public land, or (c) a resident authorized by a person described in (a) or a resident authorized in writing by a person described in (b) may, without a licence, hunt (but not trap) black bear or coyote on such lands, at all times of the year.

Timber Wolf*

Any person who is (a) the owner or occupant of privately owned land, or (b) authorized to keep livestock on public land, or (c) a resident authorized by a person described in (a) or a resident authorized in writing by a person described in (b) may, without a licence and at all times of the year, hunt (but not trap) timber wolf on such lands, and on any lands within 8 km (5 mi.) of the above lands, provided he or she also has the right of access to these latter lands.

* It is not legally necessary to salvage pelts of furbearing animals (includes coyote and wolf) taken in accordance with regulations authorizing control of problem wildlife. Refer to page 48 for information about seasons for coyote and wolf.

RESTRICTED AREAS

Alberta has a variety of restricted areas. Please read the following sections carefully to determine how the various designations affect hunting opportunities.

ALL HUNTING

Wildlife Sanctuaries

Sanctuaries are intended to provide secure habitat for wildlife and thus allow populations to either increase or remain at desired levels. They include areas of high quality habitat, often where populations of some wildlife species have been significantly lowered or dispersed because of disturbance at some time in the past. Sanctuary status allows these areas to realize their potential to support wildlife and to act as core areas of production for animals that will disperse to surrounding areas. It also increases the opportunities for Albertans to view wildlife.

NOTE: Privately owned lands within wildlife sanctuaries are excluded from the sanctuaries.

The following regulations apply to the specific sanctuaries listed in Parts 1 and 2 below:

Part 1 – Sheep River Wildlife Sanctuary

It is unlawful to hunt wildlife or possess a weapon within Sheep River (WMU 406) Wildlife Sanctuary. However, a person may, while crossing this sanctuary, possess a weapon that (a) is completely enclosed in a case or other suitable covering or has been taken apart, and (b) in the case of a firearm, does not contain ammunition.

Part 2 – Road Corridor Wildlife Sanctuaries

It is unlawful to hunt within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of the road in a designated road corridor wildlife sanctuary (a corridor 730 m or 800 yards wide). No person shall possess a weapon in these sanctuaries unless:

- while crossing the sanctuary, the weapon is in a condition described in Part 1 above, or
- while crossing the sanctuary on horseback or on foot, the weapon, if it is a firearm, does not contain ammunition and the person is travelling in a direct route to leave the road corridor wildlife sanctuary.

There are 11 road corridor wildlife sanctuaries, shown in green on the enclosed WMU map. Eight are located in the Mountain and Foothills regions and three in the Boreal Region. Descriptions of the Road Corridor Wildlife Sanctuaries are as follows:

Mountain and Foothills

- Highwood – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of
 - Highway 40 between the southern boundary of Peter Lougheed Provincial Park and Secondary Road 541,
 - Secondary Road 541 between Highway 40 and the eastern boundary of the Rocky Mountain Forest Reserve;
- Harold Creek – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that portion of the road locally known as the Harold Creek Road between the eastern boundary of the Rocky Mountain Forest Reserve and Secondary Road 734;
- Eagle Creek – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that

continued on page 24



GRIZZLY 660

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GRIZZLY



BEAR TRACKER

- portion of the road locally known as the Ya Ha Tinda Ranch Road between Eagle Creek and the ranch headquarters buildings;
4. Elk Creek – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that portion of Secondary Road 734 between Idlewild Creek and the road locally known as the Peppers Lake Road;
 5. Ram Falls – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that portion of Secondary Road 734 between the Ram River and the road locally known as the Onion Lake Road;
 6. North Ram – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that portion of Secondary Road 734 that is in Township 38, Range 15, West of the 5th Meridian and north of the North Ram River;
 7. Kootenay Plains – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that portion of Highway 11 between Allstones Creek and the eastern boundary of Banff National Park;
 8. Highway 40/Little Smoky/Simonette – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of
 - (a) that portion of Highway 40 between the Berland River and the Muskeg River,
 - (b) the road locally known as the Huckleberry Tower Road,
 - (c) that portion of Secondary Road 734 between Highway 40 and its junction with the Grande Cache Forest Products Haul Road locally known as the Smoky Mainline,
 - (d) the Grande Cache Forest Products Haul Road locally known as the Smoky Mainline in Townships 57 and 58, Ranges 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, West of the 6th Meridian,
 - (e) that portion of the Grande Cache Forest Products Haul Road locally known as the Ghost Mainline in Townships 57, 58, 59 and 60, Ranges 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, West of the 6th Meridian,
 - (f) the Grande Cache Forest Products Haul Road locally known as the Simonette Mainline in Townships 58 and 59, Ranges 3 and 4, West of the 6th Meridian;

Boreal Region

9. Whitemud Hills – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of the Peace River Pulp Road locally known as the Whitemud Hills Haul Road from Highway 35 to the western boundary of Section 14, Township 85, Range 2, West of the 6th Meridian;
10. Sulphur Lake – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of the Peace River Pulp Road locally known as the Sulphur Lake Haul Road from the southeast corner of Township 88, Range 1, West of the 6th Meridian to its junction with the road locally known as the Canfor East Road in Township 89, Range 3, West of the 6th Meridian;
11. Peace River Pulp Mill/Sun Valley Ferry – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of
 - (a) the Peace River Pulp Road between Secondary Road 686 and the Peace River Pulp Mill in Township 85, Range 21, West of the 5th Meridian,
 - (b) the Peace River Pulp Road locally known as the Peace River Pulp Resource Road between Secondary Road 686 and the Sun Valley Ferry crossing of the Peace River in Township 90, Range 21, West of the 5th Meridian,
 - (c) that portion of Secondary Road 686 between its junctions with roads referred to in (a) and (b).

Seasonal Sanctuaries

No person shall approach within 800 metres (0.5 mile) of any of the following seasonal sanctuaries between April 15 and September 15.

1. The island known as Pelican Island in Newell Lake in Township 17, Range 15, W4M;
2. The unnamed island in Namur Lake in Sections 35 and 36, Township 97, Range 17, W4M;
3. The unnamed islands in Wadlin Lake in Township 100, Range 10 and 11, W5M;
4. The unnamed island in Beaverhill Lake in Section 5, Township 52, Range 17, W4M;
5. The unnamed island in the unnamed lake in Section 8, 9, 16 and 17, Township 95, Range 17, W4M;
6. The unnamed island in Scope Reservoir in LSD 2 and 3, Section 10, Township 13, Range 14, W4M;

No person shall enter the following seasonal sanctuaries between April 15 and September 15:

1. That portion of the unnamed island in Lower Therien Lake in the NW Quarter of Section 14, Township 57, Range 10, W4M;
2. That portion of Lower Therien Lake in Section 2, 3, 10 and 11, Township 57, Range 10, W4M;
3. The unnamed islands in the Slave River in the SW Quarter of Section 30, Township 126, Range 10, W4M, and the SE Quarter of Section 25, Township 126, Range 11, W4M;
4. The island known as Bird Island in Buffalo Lake in Section 30, Township 40, Range 20, W4M;
5. The unnamed island in Joseph Lake in Section 12, Township 50, Range 22, W4M.

Métis Settlements

In general, only a member of a Métis Settlement Association, formed under the *Métis Settlements Act*, may hunt or trap wildlife on a Métis Settlement. Hunting by non-members may be authorized under settlement by-laws.

Natural Areas

Natural areas are special parcels of public land that are formally set aside by the Alberta Government to protect sensitive and scenic land from disturbance. Natural areas fall in the middle of the range of conservation lands in Alberta, between strictly protected lands – such as ecological reserves and provincial parks – and lands intensively developed for recreation. The main objective of natural areas management is to maintain the natural features and characteristics of the site. Development of any facilities is kept to a minimum.

Generally, hunting is permitted in most natural areas. However, there are some sites with special management or safety considerations that restrict hunting and access (e.g., Wagner Natural Area, Riverlot 56, and Sherwood Park Natural Area near Edmonton).

For information about a specific site or the Natural Areas Program, contact Alberta Parks and Protected Areas Division at 780-427-3582 (toll free 1-866-427-3582).

Ecological Reserves

Ecological reserves contain representative or special provincial natural features. The management intent of the reserves is to allow natural processes to occur. The *Wilderness Areas, Ecological Reserves and Natural Areas Act* prohibits hunting within ecological reserves, unless it is required for management purposes to simulate natural events. For example, hunting for big game is allowed in Upper Bob Creek Ecological Reserve, located in WMU 308, but the use of motorized vehicles is not permitted.

Alberta's Ecological Reserves Program is part of a larger international program to preserve natural ecosystems. Ecological reserves protect representative areas in each of the natural regions of Alberta for the conservation of genetic resources, to allow for the appreciation of nature, to preserve our natural heritage, and to establish ecological benchmarks

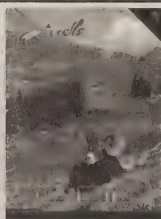
continued on page 28

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For further information on ecological reserves, contact Alberta Parks and Protected Areas Division at 780-427-3582 (toll free 1-866-427-3582).

Heritage Rangelands

Heritage rangelands are established to preserve and protect natural heritage that is representative of Alberta's grasslands, using grazing to maintain the grassland environment. Seven heritage rangelands have been established in Alberta, with interim designation as natural areas: Black Creek, Twin River, Onefour, Tolman Badlands, Killarney-Reflex Lakes, Ribstone Creek and Beaverhill Lake heritage rangeland natural areas. These sites are open to hunting, according to the provisions in place for hunting in natural areas. Recreational vehicle use is discouraged in all of these sites, with the exception of Beaverhill Lake, where traditional snowmobile use continues to be permitted. For current information about heritage rangeland natural areas, contact the Alberta Parks and Protected Areas Division at 780-427-3582 (toll-free 1-866-427-3582).

Provincial Parks and Recreation Areas

Except for Wildland Provincial Parks (see page 29) or for the limited seasons provided in WMUs 624 (Cypress Hills Provincial Park), 936 (Blackfoot Recreation Area) and 841 (Lakeland Recreation Area), it is unlawful to hunt, or to carry or discharge a firearm in a provincial park or recreation area without a firearms carry and discharge permit.

* Otherwise, all firearms must be unloaded, encased or dismantled. In the case of Blackfoot Recreation Area, hunters will need to obtain a "Firearms Discharge Permit" from the office at Blackfoot Provincial Recreation Area prior to engaging in any hunting-related activity inside the recreation area.

Forest Recreation Areas

It is unlawful to discharge a firearm within a forest recreation area. It is also unlawful to "dress" a big game animal within a forest recreation area.

Kananaskis Country

Hunters are reminded that other people use Kananaskis Country trails and camping areas for recreational purposes. Discharging and handling of firearms must be done with care and respect for the safety of others. Access to some areas may be affected when recreational trails and roads for industrial use are temporarily closed. For further information, contact Alberta Community Development in Kananaskis Country.

National Parks

Hunting is prohibited in national parks, and hunters should be especially careful about their locations when hunting near park boundaries. Firearms are prohibited in national parks except on through highways and in town sites, where they must be unloaded and encased.

Other Restricted Areas

Except for the special seasons provided in WMUs 728 and 730, hunting is not permitted in the following areas:

- Cold Lake Air Weapons Range (WMU 726),
- Canadian Forces Base Wainwright (WMUs 728 and 730),
- Canadian Forces Base Suffield (WMU 732),
- Ghost River Wilderness Area (WMU 734),
- Greene Valley Wildlife Management Unit (WMU 926),
- Siffleur Wilderness Area (WMU 736),
- White Goat Wilderness Area (WMU 738), and
- within 91 m (100 yards) of Highway 1 or Highway 1A in WMU 410.

BIG GAME HUNTING

The hunting of big game is not permitted in the following areas:

- the Gregg River Resources Coal Mineral Surface Lease in WMU 438, and
- the Cardinal River Coal Mineral Surface Lease in WMU 438, except for non-trophy sheep under the authority of a Non-trophy Sheep Special Licence.

Saskatoon Mountain Primitive Weapons Area

Only shotguns, muzzleloaders, cross-bows and archery equipment may be used to hunt big game in this area in WMU 357 near Grande Prairie (see enclosed Wildlife Management Unit Map).

Restricted Areas for Trophy and Non-trophy Sheep

It is unlawful to hunt trophy or non-trophy sheep within the following areas:

- 183 m (200 yards) of the Canada Cement rock quarry at Exshaw.
- 0.8 km (0.5 mi.) of Highway 1A between the western boundary of the Stoney Indian Reserve and Canmore,
- 0.8 km (0.5 mi.) of Highway 3,
- 1.6 km (1 mi.) of the Sheep River from the eastern boundary of WMU 406 upstream to Dyson Creek,
- 1.6 km (1.0 mi.) of the Inland Cement Rock Quarry near Cadomin,
- 1.6 km (1.0 mi.) of the intersection of Whitehorse Creek and the main forestry trunk road south of Cadomin,
- 1.6 km (1.0 mi.) of where Highway 16 intersects the eastern boundary of Jasper National Park,
- 3.2 km (2.0 mi.) of the intersection of the Forestry Trunk Road and the South Ram River in Section 18, Township 36, Range 13, West of the Fifth Meridian,

GAME BIRD HUNTING

Game Bird Sanctuaries

Hunting game birds and carrying shotguns are prohibited in game bird sanctuaries except with a special permit. Descriptions of these sanctuaries are available from the Queen's Printer in Edmonton or Calgary (page 8). Game bird sanctuaries are located in the following WMUs:

WMU	Sanctuary	WMU	Sanctuary
102	Pakowki Lake	242	Ministik Lake
148	Many Island Lake	242	Miquelon Lake
212	Inglewood	357	Saskatoon Lake
220	Red Deer	503	Lac La Biche
238	Birch Lake	530	Richardson Lake

Restricted Rivers

Hunting of migratory game birds on the following rivers, over any islands in these rivers or within 91 m (100 yards) of the edge of the waters of these rivers is prohibited until November 1:

1. Bow River downstream from the corporate limits of the City of Calgary to Highway 24.
2. Little Smoky River downstream from Highway 43.
3. Peace River.
4. Red Deer River downstream from the corporate limits of the City of Red Deer.
5. Smoky River downstream from the mouth of the Wapiti River.
6. South Saskatchewan River downstream from the corporate limits of the City of Medicine Hat.

Restricted Lakes

Hunting game birds on the following lakes, over any island in these lakes or within 0.8 km (0.5 mi.) of the edge of the waters of these lakes is prohibited until November 1 (Note additional restrictions below for Saskatoon Lake and Ministik Lake). Efforts are made to post signs near these lakes, but not all lakes may be so identified. It is the hunter's responsibility to know the restrictions in the area he or she hunts.

Prairie WMUs

160	Little Fish Lake (28-16,17-W4)
162	Berry Creek Reservoir (Carolside Dam) (26,27-12-W4)
162	Blood Indian Creek Reservoir (26-9-W4)
162	Birkenshire Lake (23,24-28-11-W4)
163	Currant Lake (33-3-W4)
163	Grassy Island Lake (33-3-W4)
163	Misty Lake (33-3-W4)

163 Sounding Creek Reservoir (30-5,6-W4)
 164 Fitzgerald Lake (3,4-33-8-W4)
 164 Kirkpatrick Lake (33,34-9,10-W4)
 164 Rushmere Lake (33-8-W4)
 164 Syson Lake (35-12,13-W4)
 164 Grays Lake (28,32,33-32-7-W4)
 164 Wiste Lake (2,11-33-7-W4)
 164 Unnamed Lake (23 to 27-33-8-W4)
 164 Unnamed Lake (31,32-33-8-W4)
 164 Polly Lake (7-31-1-W4)
 164 Willowbend Reservoir (K-B Lake) (1-31-13-W4)
 166 Dowling Lake (31,32-14,15-W4)
 166 Sullivan Lake (34 to 37-14,15-W4)

Parkland WMUs

200 Sounding Lake (36,37-3,4-W4)
 202 Armstrong Lake (42-10-W4)
 202 Unnamed Lake (8,9-38-10-W4)
 203 Bellshill (Goose) Lake (42-11-W4)
 206 Buffalo Lake (40,41-20,21,22-W4**)
 221 Cygnet Lake (38-1-W5 and 38-28-W4)
 228 Driedmeat Lake (44,45-19,20-W4)
 232 Blackburn Lake (10,11-43-10-W4)
 234 Dolcy Lake (26,35-42-4-W4)

234 Gillespie Lake (39,40-2-W4)
 234 McIntyre Lake (16,17-44-1-W4)
 236 Kenilworth Lake (50-4-W4)
 242 Beaverhill Lake (that portion lying in 50,51-17,18-W4 – approx. southern 1/2 of lake)
 242 Ministik Lake* (50-21-W4)
 242 Oliver Lake (50-21-W4)
 242 Lake 'A' (50,51-17-W4) adjacent to Beaverhill Lake
 252 Whitford Lake (56-15,16-W4)

* **Hunting of game birds in the Ministik Lake Game Bird Sanctuary is prohibited.**

** Hunting of upland game birds only is permitted in 9-40-21-W4.

Foothills WMUs

357 Saskatoon Lake* (including Little Lake) (71, 72-7,8-W6)
 * **Hunting of game birds in Saskatoon Lake Federal Migratory Bird Sanctuary is prohibited.**

Boreal WMUs

502 Stebbing Lake (63-7-W4)
 523 Winagami Lake (76,77-18,19-W5)
 523 Kimiwan Lake (78-19-W5)
 523 Lac Magloire (79-21-W5)

VEHICLE RESTRICTIONS

The use of vehicles, including off-highway vehicles (OHVs), is controlled by various regulations. Refer to the enclosed Wildlife Management Unit Map for more information.



This symbol on the enclosed map indicates that special restrictions apply to all vehicles. Kananaskis Country, in WMUs 404 – 410, has a variety of special vehicle restrictions outlined in the pamphlet *Forest Land Use Zones*. For more information on the special restrictions, contact any office of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development in Kananaskis Country.

Forest Land Use Zones (F.L.U.Z.)

F.L.U.Z. This symbol on the enclosed map identifies a number of environmentally sensitive areas along the eastern slopes that have been designated as Forest Land Use Zones and have limitations on recreational use and access. For more detailed information on Forest Land Use Zones, contact the Information Centre in Edmonton (see page 10).

Wildland Provincial Parks

Hunting is allowed in the Wildland Provincial parks shown on the enclosed WMU map. However, special access restrictions apply to all motorized vehicles. For example, Bob Creek Wildland Provincial Park provides a network of designated trails on which only specific OHVs (quads and snowmobiles) may be operated from May 1 to December 15. For more detailed information, contact a Fish and Wildlife Division office (see page 10).

Hunting with Motorized Vehicles

It is unlawful to

- discharge a firearm within 46 m (50 yards) of an OHV (see definition on page 6);

- discharge a **weapon** at antelope from within 46 m (50 yards) of a vehicle;
 - use motorized travel within Willmore Wilderness Park; and
 - carry a weapon (see definition on page 7) on an OHV **between 1 hour before sunrise and the following noon** during an open season for big game on public land in the following WMUs: 102-166, 200-260, 300-360, 400-446, 507, 508, 514, 521, 522 and 841. This does not apply when the operator is on a direct route to or from a location accessible by vehicles designed for highway travel and his or her isolated campsite, and the weapons and ammunition are carried out of view in separate locked containers.
- Also, the restriction does not apply in a WMU when the only big game season open is a spring black bear season.

NOTE: Be aware that this restriction applies where grizzly bear seasons are open.

Recreation Trails

A number of forested areas throughout Alberta have designated recreation trails. These areas allow a variety of activities including hiking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling. Trail users and backcountry travellers should be aware of current land use restrictions. For more information on recreation trails, contact the Information Centre in Edmonton (see page 10).

Trappers' Trails

Many trails on Crown lands are created and maintained by trappers. To avoid interference with trapline operations, recreationists are urged to avoid motorized use of trails marked with signs indicating "Active Trapline," especially during trapping seasons of November through February.

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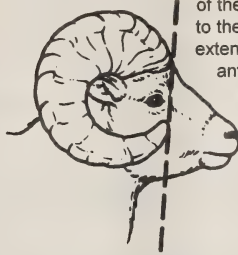
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— Big Game Identification —

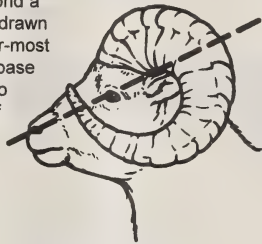
Be Careful!

Study a ram carefully when determining its trophy status. Be sure to view the ram's head from a horizontal plane and in profile, with the front of the right and left horn bases aligned. Views from below, in front, or any other perspective other than "in profile" will not provide for accurate judgement. Some rams may not be legal even if they are old or have horns severely broomed or with turned up tips.

Trophy Sheep — A male bighorn sheep with horns, one of which is of sufficient size that a straight line drawn from the most anterior point of the base of the horn to the tip of the horn extends beyond the anterior edge of the eye when viewed in profile.



Full-Curl Trophy Sheep — A male bighorn sheep with horns, one of which is of sufficient size that when viewed in profile, its tip extends upward beyond a straight line drawn from the rear-most point of the base of the horn to the centre of the nostril.



lamb



yearling ewe

Non-trophy Sheep — A female bighorn sheep or a male bighorn sheep under one year of age.

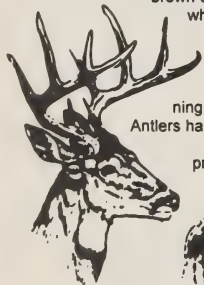


yearling ram
(illegal)



adult ewe

White-tailed Deer — Body color grey to reddish brown, under body white. Tail large and bushy, brown on upper surface and white on lower surface.



Tail often held erect and "flagged" when animal runs. Gait a series of short running dashes and bounds. Antlers have individual tines off main beams. Antlers present on males only.



Mule Deer — Body color grey to brownish grey, under body white. Ears prominent; tail compact, rope-like, and black-tipped; rump patch white. Tail held down when animal runs. Gait a series of stiff-legged bounds. Antlers branched and present on males only.

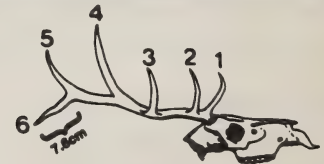


Antlered

A white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose or elk having an antler exceeding 10.2 cm (4 in.) in length.

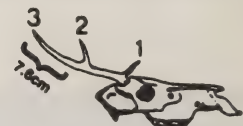
Antlerless

A white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose or elk that is not "antlered" (as defined above).



Six-point Elk — A male elk bearing an antler that is composed of a main beam from which project not fewer than five tines, each of which is at least 7.6 cm (3 in.) in length.

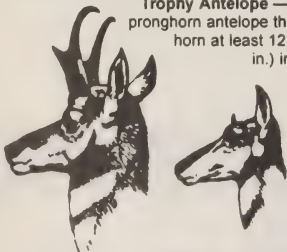
Note: The tip of the main beam must be at least 7.6 cm (3 in.) from the base of the last tine counted.



Three-point Elk — A male elk bearing an antler that is composed of a main beam from which project not fewer than two tines, each of which is at least 7.6 cm (3 in.) in length.

Note: The tip of the main beam must be at least 7.6 cm (3 in.) from the base of the last tine counted.

Trophy Antelope — A male pronghorn antelope that has a horn at least 12.6 cm (5 in.) in length.



Non-trophy Antelope — A female pronghorn antelope or a male pronghorn antelope having horns not more than 7.6 cm (3 in.) in length.

Woodland Caribou — Woodland Caribou are classified as Threatened animals in Alberta.

THERE IS NO OPEN SEASON FOR CARIBOU.



male

female

Moose

Cow – large, long nose and face; eyes appear close to top of head; rectangular body proportions; 1.8 m (6 ft.) high at the shoulder; may be found alone.

Calf – small, short nose and face; eyes appear more centered between tip of nose and top of head; squarish body proportions; 1.2 m (4 ft.) high at the shoulder; seldom found alone.

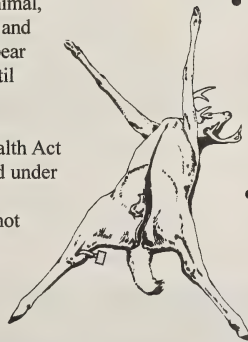


EVIDENCE OF SEX, SPECIES AND CLASS

Evidence of sex, species and class must be retained (cannot be surgically or otherwise removed) on the carcass of big game animals, except black bear, until the carcass is delivered to either of the following:

- the usual residence of the person who killed the animal, and the carcass is actually being butchered, cut up and packaged for consumption. In the case of grizzly bear or cougar, the evidence of sex must be retained until the animal has been registered (page 33), or
- a premises* in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the Public Health Act or Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the Meat Inspection Act.

*Note: The evidence of sex, species or class cannot be removed until it is delivered to one of these premises.



- the head with horns or antlers attached if the animal has horns or antlers, or
- the head (complete with the skin on it) if the animal has no horns or antlers, and
- in addition,
 - the complete skull plate with horns or antlers intact must be retained with the carcass of the male antelope, male elk or male non-trophy sheep
 - the complete head must be retained with the carcass of a calf moose harvested under authority of a Calf Moose Special Licence.
- grizzly bear and cougar** – one of the following attached to the skin and visible:
 - in the case of a male, the scrotum
 - in the case of a female, a teat or a portion of a mammary gland.

The evidence of sex, species or class that must be retained is as follows:

- moose, elk, deer, antelope and non-trophy sheep** – attached to the same part of the animal to which the tag is affixed, one of the following:
 - testicles, scrotum, or udder, and in the case of deer only, the completely haired tail, or

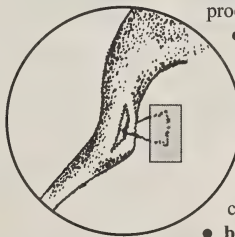
To retain the scrotum or udder, cut to one side of the scrotum or udder when opening the animal for gutting. If you skin your game, the scrotum or udder must remain attached to the meat. If you remove testicles and penis, leave the entire scrotum intact. The meat will not be tainted.

TAGGING

NOTE: Antlered moose, elk and deer must **NOT** be tagged around the antler base. Please review the following instructions.

Immediately after killing a big game animal, the appropriate tag(s) must be affixed and securely locked to the animal as follows:

- trophy sheep, goat** – one tag through the nostril and, as soon as the skin is removed from the skull, one tag around the lower bone of the eye socket leaving the horns and eye intact.
- moose, elk, deer, antelope and non-trophy sheep** – through the space between the bone and the tendon of a hind leg directly above the hock and around either the bone or the tendon.
- bear and cougar** – to the skin.



primary licence holder must, immediately upon arriving at the carcass, tag the animal in the normal fashion (See page 16 for more information).

Tags must remain affixed until, in the case of

- trophy sheep, goat** – the animal is registered (page 33) and the skin is processed.
- moose, elk, deer, antelope or non-trophy sheep** – the carcass is delivered to the usual residence of the person who killed the animal or to a premises (i.e., meat plant or butcher shop) in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the Public Health Act or Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the Meat Inspection Act **and** the carcass is actually being butchered, cut and packaged for consumption.
- bear and cougar** – the skin is processed.

Partner Licence

Upon killing an animal, a partner must immediately inform the primary licence holder (and vice versa – if the primary licence holder kills the animal, he or she must immediately inform the partner) of the killing. The

To tag your kill using the paper tag that comes with your licence, attach the wire loop to the animal as described above for various species and classes. Close and secure the loop by affixing the adhesive tag over the free ends of the wire.

ALBERTA SPECIAL HUNTING LICENCES FOR ELK AND BIGHORN SHEEP

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Canada in cooperation with Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, conducts two raffles for Alberta residents only, to raise funds for the conservation, restoration and enhancement of wildlife and wildlife habitat within the province.

The elk licence is valid from December 1 – December 30 anywhere in Alberta except WMU 410. The bighorn sheep licence offers hunting opportunities from November 1 – November 30, except in WMU 410 and WMU 437.

Three previous Alberta Special Licences produced bighorn rams scoring 208 3/8, 205 and 190+. You could break these records by purchasing elk and bighorn sheep raffle tickets for \$10/each.

Tickets are available from Elk Foundation Chapters or by contacting:

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Canada Headquarters
P.O.Box 940 / 4316-49 Avenue, Rocky Mountain House, Alberta T4T 1A7

1-800-563-7633



BOWHUNTING

Note: The following applies to bowhunting other than with a cross-bow. For information about hunting with cross-bows, see page 57.

Except for the hunting of black bear, coyote or wolf under the circumstances outlined on page 24, a Bowhunting Permit is required by anyone who hunts big game, wolf or coyote with a bow and arrow. Bowhunters with appropriate general or special licences may hunt during the general seasons as well as archery-only seasons. A Bowhunting Permit is required in combination with a big game licence. In some areas of the province, hunters require special licences to hunt certain species of big game – see season tables. A hunter who obtains an Antlered Moose Special Licence, Antlerless Moose Special Licence, Calf Moose Special Licence, Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence, Antlerless Mule Deer Special Licence, Antlered White-tailed Deer Special Licence, Antlerless White-tailed Deer Special Licence, Antlered Elk Special Licence or Antlerless Elk Special Licence may, if an early archery season is offered, hunt under the authority of that licence during the archery season but only in the WMU specified on the licence and only for the type and species of animal for which the licence was issued. Bowhunters are reminded that, in some situations, archery-only seasons for some species may be in progress at the same time as rifle seasons for other species in the same WMU.

Persons hunting big game must use an authorized bow and an authorized arrow. An authorized bow is one that is held, drawn and released by muscular power and has a draw weight of not less than 18 kg (40 lb.). This is the number of kilograms (pounds) required to draw an arrow of 71 cm (28 in.) to its head. An authorized arrow is one that is not less than 61 cm (24 in.) in length having a sharp, unbarbed broad-head of not less than 2.2 cm (7/8 in.) in width.

Hunters are asked to remove their tree stands at the end of the hunting seasons unless permission has been granted by the landholder to do otherwise.

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WILDLIFE COMPULSORY REGISTRATION

After harvesting **any** of the animals listed below, a hunter is legally required to register the kill at a Fish and Wildlife Division office (page 10) within the specified time period. Where parts are required to be submitted, they must be submitted at the time the animal is registered in person by the hunter who killed the animal. For species where parts are not required to be submitted, the hunter who killed the animal may not have to attend in person at the time of registration. Contact a Fish and Wildlife office (page 10) for further information.

- All elk (no parts need to be submitted with the registration);
- All goat (the incisor bar must be submitted);
- All grizzly bear (the skin and skull must be submitted complete with the evidence of sex attached and visible);
- All trophy sheep (the complete unaltered skull with horns and eyes intact must be submitted);
- Wolves taken in any of WMUs 300 to 316 or 400 to 426 under any authority (no parts of wolves need to be submitted);
- All cougar (the skin must be submitted complete with the evidence of sex attached and visible).

Registration Deadlines – All registrations (except for cougar and grizzly bear) must be completed no later than 14 days after the close of the open season during which the animal was killed or 30 days after the date on which the animal was killed, whichever occurs first. Cougars must be registered within 2 business days following the kill. Grizzly bears must be registered within 4

business days following the kill. If an animal is exported, it must first be registered.

Persons registering elk, grizzly bear, goat, trophy sheep, cougar and wolf are required to provide the following information:

- species and sex of the animal,
- date and location of the kill.

The skulls of grizzly bear should be separated from the hides. Skulls will be temporarily retained to allow cleaning, examination, and the extraction of a small tooth for aging before being returned to the hunter.

As part of the registration process, trophy sheep horns will be fitted with a permanent identification marker. Other animals may be marked in another manner or retained for examination.

Compulsory registration provides information about the relative numbers of males, females and young in big game populations. It also provides the dates and locations of the harvest. Age structure and sex ratios provide an indication of population productivity (how many young survive to become adults) and status (increasing, decreasing or stable). The population and harvest data can then be used to determine the harvest goals or quotas for following years. This valuable information, provided by hunters, is essential for managing cougar, elk, grizzly bear, goat, trophy sheep and wolves in Alberta.

ATTENTION BEAR HUNTERS!

Black Bear Baiting

Baiting of black bears is permitted in the following WMUs: 320-324, 330-338, 348, 358-360, 500-507, 509, 510, 512-520, 522, 523, 526, 529-536, 539-542, and portions of WMUs 357, 521, 528 and 544 (check with local Fish and Wildlife Division offices, page 10). However, the following restrictions also apply:

1) Baiting is prohibited within 1.6 km (1 mi.) of occupied dwellings. (Owners and occupants of dwellings are exempt from this restriction if they have permission to bait from the owners or occupants of all other dwellings within 1.6 km [1 mi.] of the bait. Other persons may also bait within 1.6 km [1 mi.] of an occupied dwelling if the bait has been authorized in writing by the owners or occupants of that dwelling and all other dwellings within 1.6 km [1 mi.] of the bait.)

2) Baiting is prohibited within 1.6 km (1 mi.) of provincial parks that are not designated as Wildland Provincial Parks, provincial and forest recreation areas and some industrial sites.

3) Each bait site must have a readily observable sign legibly showing the owner's name, WIN, Big Game Outfitter-guide Permit number, or Big Game Guide Designation Number.

4) Each bait must be posted with surrounding signs to warn other people of its presence.

5) Baiting is restricted to the open season and the preceding two weeks in each specific WMU. Contact a Fish and Wildlife Division office (page 10) for legal land descriptions or more information.

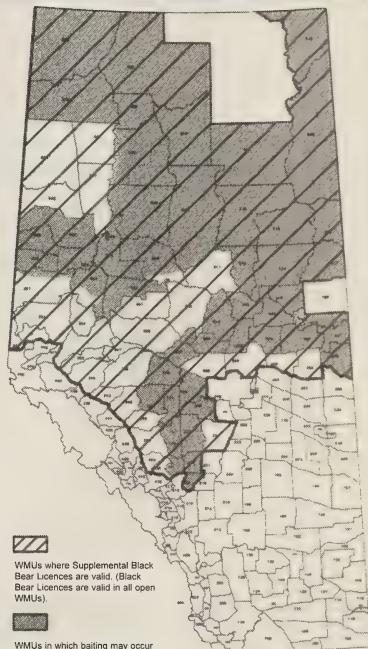
Hunters are reminded that Alberta's *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*, *Livestock Diseases Act* and the *Public Health Act* apply to baiting situations. Any livestock dying other than through proper slaughter for human consumption must be disposed of in prescribed ways and may not be used for baiting bears. Containers or wrappings made of paper, cardboard, plastic or other materials should not be left at bait sites. For the safety of others, baits should not be placed near active work sites (e.g., tree planting locations) and all bait sites must be cleaned immediately after the bear season.

Supplemental Black Bear Licences

Supplemental Black Bear Licences are available in the following WMUs: 224, 250, 258, 260, 320-360, 429, 445, 500-544 and 841.

ATTENTION WOLF HUNTERS!

- Setting out bait for the purpose of hunting wolves is lawful **except** during a spring black bear season where the use of bait for hunting black bear is not allowed.
- Where/when there is an open spring black bear season and baiting for black bear is allowed, wolf baits must be signed/posted in the same manner as black bear baits. This requirement to sign/post wolf baits is not in effect in other circumstances where wolf baits are lawfully set.



WMUs where Supplemental Black Bear Licences are valid (black bear season) are shaded with diagonal lines.

WMUs in which baiting may occur (baiting is permitted only in portions of WMUs 357, 521, 528 and 544).

ATTENTION BEAR AND COUGAR HUNTERS!

Trichinosis – To prevent possible trichinosis, a parasitic infection, bear and cougar meat should be thoroughly cooked before it is consumed by humans or pets.

Sunday Hunting and Fixed-date Seasons

Please remember that hunting on Sunday is illegal over much of the province. Even where the listed opening or closing of a fixed-season falls on a Sunday, you may not hunt on Sunday unless you are in the Sunday Hunting Area (see insert map).



Prairie WMUs (100 Series)

Alberta
SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT

Fish & Wildlife

■ Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. Refer to the **2004 Alberta Hunting Draws** booklet for details.

See page 7 for definitions of month abbreviations used in seasons, and see additional notes at end of this table.

Hunting is not permitted on Sundays except in the Sunday Hunting Area (see insert map).

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
White-tailed Deer	Antlered	S8 - N3	(Thu, Fri, Sat only) N4 - N6 N11 - N13 N18 - N20 N25 - N27	102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164
		S8 - O31	N1 - N30	166
	Antlerless	S8 - N3	■ (Thu, Fri, Sat only) N4 - N6 N11 - N13 N18 - N20 N25 - N27	102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164
		S8 - O31	■ N1 - N30	166
Mule Deer	Antlered and Antlerless	S8 - N3	■ (Thu, Fri, Sat only) N4 - N6 N11 - N13 N18 - N20 N25 - N27	102, 104, 106, 110, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164
		S8 - O31	■ N1 - N30	166
	Antlered	O1 - N3	■ (Thu, Fri, Sat only) N4 - N6 N11 - N13 N18 - N20 N25 - N27	108, 128, 130
	Antlerless	S8 - N3	■ (Thu, Fri, Sat only) N4 - N6 N11 - N13 N18 - N20 N25 - N27	108, 128, 130
Moose	Antlered and Antlerless	■ S8 - O31	■ N1 - N30	156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166

Big Game Seasons in PRAIRIE WMUs continued next page

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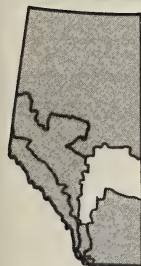
Hunting is not permitted on Sundays except in the Sunday Hunting Area (see insert map).

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
Elk	Antlered and Antlerless		■ S8 - S23 ■ S24 - O8 ■ O9 - O23	102
			■ S8 - S30 ■ O1 - O24 ■ O25 - N16 ■ N17 - D20	104

Additional hunting opportunities in the Prairie WMUs:

- Cypress Hills Elk Special Licence, Antelope Archery Special Licence, Non-trophy Antelope Special Licence and Trophy Antelope Special Licence. Refer to page 48 for season dates or to the **2004 Alberta Hunting Draws** booklet for further details.
- Cypress Hills Elk Archery Licence. Holders of this licence may kill 1 elk, either antlered or antlerless, with a bow and arrow in WMUs 116, 118 and 119 during the archery season, S8 - O4.

BIG GAME SEASONS



Parkland WMUs (200 Series & 728, 730, 936)

Alberta
SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT

Fish & Wildlife

■ Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. Refer to the **2004 Alberta Hunting Draws** booklet for details.

See page 7 for definitions of month abbreviations used in seasons, and see additional notes at end of this table.

Hunting is not permitted on Sundays except in the Sunday Hunting Area (see insert map).

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
White-tailed Deer ¹	Antlered and Antlerless	S8 - O31	N1 - N30	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260
		S8 - N30		212, 248
		O17 - O31	N9 - N30	936 ²
	Antlered	S8 - N3	(Thu, Fri, Sat only) N4 - N6 N11 - N13 N18 - N20 N25 - N27	210
	Antlerless	S8 - N3	■ (Thu, Fri, Sat only) N4 - N6 N11 - N13 N18 - N20 N25 - N27	210
Mule Deer <i>continued on next page</i>	Antlered and Antlerless	S8 - O31	■ N1 - N30	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260
		S8 - N3	■ (Thu, Fri, Sat only) N4 - N6 N11 - N13 N18 - N20 N25 - N27	210

Big Game Seasons in PARKLAND WMUs continued on page 36

Hunting is not permitted on Sundays except in the Sunday Hunting Area (see insert map).

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
Mule Deer <i>continued</i>	Antlered and Antlerless	S8 - N30		212, 248
	Antlered	S8 - O31	■ N1 - N30	250
Moose	Antlered and Antlerless	■ S8 - O31	■ N1 - N30	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 210, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260
		S8 - N30		212, 248
			■ N25 - D11 ³	728, 730
		■ O17 - O31	■ N1 - N23	936 ²
	Antlerless		■ (Mon. – Fri. only) O25 - D7 ⁴	248 (Strathcona County portion only)
	Antlerless (calf only)		■ N25 - D11 ³	728, 730
Elk	Antlered and Antlerless	S8 - N30		212, 248
			■ N25 - D11 ³	728, 730
		■ O17 - O31	■ N1 - N23	936 ²
	Antlered (3-point or larger) ⁵	S8 - O24	O25 - N30	214
		S8 - O31	N1 - N30	216, 224
	Antlered	S8 - O31	■ N1 - N30	200, 202, 203, 234
	Antlerless	S8 - O31	■ N1 - D20	200, 202, 203, 224
		S8 - O24	■ O25 - N20 ■ N21 - D20	214
		S8 - O31	■ N1 - N25 ■ N26 - D20	216, 234
Black Bear ⁶	Fall 2004	S8 - N30		212
			S8 - N30	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260
	Spring 2005	Ap1 - Ma31		212
			Ap1 - Ma31	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260
Cougar ⁷	Not Applicable		D1 - F28	216

¹ The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence is valid in WMUs 204, 206, 208, 214, 216, 220–228, 250, 258 and 260. The 2nd tag will only be valid in WMUs 258 and 260.

² Hunters (including bowhunters) require a Firearms Discharge Permit to hunt in WMU 936. Self-registration discharge permits are no longer available. Hunters must contact the Cooking Lake/Blackfoot Grazing, Wildlife and Recreation Area office at **780-922-3293** for information on requirements to obtain the discharge permit. In WMU 936, vehicle access is permitted to the Staging Areas only. Horses are permitted only on designated trails and in open pastures. General area access is by muscular power only (Bicycle or Walking).

³ From N25 - N27, this season is open only for primitive weapons.

⁴ This season is open only for archery, cross-bows, muzzleloader or shotgun.

⁵ See page 30 for descriptions of 3-point or larger elk.

- 6 The Supplemental Black Bear Licence is valid in WMU 224, 250, 258 and 260.
- 7 The cougar season in specific WMUs will close prior to the closing date on this table if either the total quota or the female quota for those WMUs is reached. Before hunting cougars in any WMU, hunters must ensure that the season in that WMU remains open, by calling the toll-free cougar hotline (1-800-661-3729) and listening to the message listing current closures. The hotline is updated regularly, and, by calling after 4:30 p.m., hunters can confirm which units will be open the next day.

Additional hunting opportunities in the Parkland WMUs:

- Antlerless Deer (WMUs 212 & 248) Licence. Holders of this licence may kill two antlerless deer, either white-tailed deer or mule deer, with a bow and arrow (but not a cross-bow) in WMUs 212 and 248 during the archery-only season, S8 – N30.
- Foothills Deer Licence. Holders of this licence may kill 2 antlerless deer, either white-tailed deer or mule deer, with a bow and arrow, cross-bow, shotgun, or muzzleloader in WMU 212 on the following dates: D6 – D9; D13 – D16. When hunting, they must carry written permission from the landowner involved.
- WMU 212 Antlerless Elk Archery Licence. Holders of this licence may kill 1 antlerless elk with a bow and arrow (but not a cross-bow) in WMU 212 during the archery only season, S8 – N30.
- Camp Wainwright Deer Special Licence. Refer to page 48 for season dates or the *2004 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet for further details.
- Strathcona White-tailed Deer Licence. Holders of this licence may kill two white-tailed deer, only 1 of which may be antlered, with a bow and arrow, cross-bow, muzzleloader or shotgun in that portion of WMU 248 within the Counties of Strathcona and Leduc only from Mondays to Fridays between the following dates: O25 – D7. Information about this hunt is available from the Fish and Wildlife Division district office in Edmonton and from Strathcona County Hall, 2001 Sherwood Drive, Sherwood Park.

BIG GAME SEASONS



Foothills WMUs (300 Series)



Fish & Wildlife

■ Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. Refer to the *2004 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet for details.

See page 7 for definitions of month abbreviations used in seasons, and see additional notes at end of this table.

Hunting is not permitted on Sundays except in the Sunday Hunting Area (see insert map).

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
White-tailed Deer ¹	Antlered and Antlerless	S8 - O31	N1 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 322, 324, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 348
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	326, 328, 330, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356
	Antlered	A25 - S23	S24 - N30	316
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	357, 358, 359, 360
		S8 - O31	N1 - N30	318, 320
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	N1 - N30	360
		A25 - S16	N1 - N7	358, 359
		A25 - S23	N1 - N30	316
		S8 - O31	N1 - N7	318, 320
		A25 - S16	N1 - N15	357

Big Game Seasons in FOOTHILLS WMUs continued on page 38

Hunting is not permitted on Sundays except in the Sunday Hunting Area (see insert map).

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
Mule Deer	Antlered and Antlerless	S8 - O31	■ N1 - N30	310, 312, 314, 318, 320, 322, 324, 332, 334, 336, 337, 348
		S8 - O24	■ O25 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	357, 358, 359, 360
	Antlered	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	326, 328, 330, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356
		A25 - S23	S24 - N30	316
		S8 - O31	■ N1 - N30	338
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	326, 346
Moose	Antlered and Antlerless	S8 - O31	■ N1 - N30	316, 337, 338
		■ S8 - O31	■ N1 - N30	310, 312, 314, 318, 320, 322, 324, 332, 334, 336
	Antlered	A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360
		■ S8 - O31	■ N1 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 348
		■ A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	326, 328, 330
	Antlerless	■ A25 - S23	■ N1 - N30	357
	Antlerless (calf only)	A25 - S23	■ S24 - N30	353*, 354
		■ A25 - S23	■ N1 - N30	359, 360
Elk	Antlered (3-point or larger) ²	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	326, 328, 330, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360
		S8 - O24	O25 - N30	302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314
		S8 - O31	N1 - N30	316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 348
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	■ S17 - D20	340, 342, 344*, 346, 357, 358, 359, 360
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	330, 353, 354, 355, 356
		S8 - O24	■ O25 - D20	302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310
		S8 - O31	■ N1 - D20	334, 336, 337, 338*, 348
		S8 - O31	■ N1 - N25 ■ N26 - D20	318, 320, 322, 324, 332
		S8 - O24	■ O25 - N20 ■ N21 - D20	312, 314
Trophy Sheep ³	Resident		A25 - O31	326, 328 ⁴
			S8 - O31	302 ⁴ , 303, 306, 308
Black Bear ^{5,6}	Fall 2004	A25 - S2	S8 - N30	351, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	326, 328, 330, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 352
		S8 - S23	S24 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314
			S8 - N30	316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 348
	Spring 2005		Ap1 - Ma15	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314
			Ap1 - Ma31	316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 352
			Ap17 - Ju15	351, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360
Cougar ⁷	Not Applicable		D1 - F28	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 352

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M D T	Sept. 1	6:50	8:21	6:38	8:12	6:44	8:22	6:29	8:20	6:48
	Sept. 5	6:57	8:12	6:45	8:03	6:51	8:13	6:37	8:09	6:57
	Sept. 10	7:04	8:01	6:53	7:51	6:59	8:01	6:47	7:56	7:08
	Sept. 15	7:12	7:49	7:01	7:39	7:08	7:48	6:57	7:42	7:19
	Sept. 20	7:20	7:38	7:09	7:28	7:17	7:36	7:08	7:29	7:30
	Sept. 25	7:28	7:27	7:18	7:16	7:26	7:24	7:18	7:15	7:41
	Sept. 30	7:36	7:15	7:26	7:04	7:35	7:12	7:28	7:02	7:52
	Oct. 1	7:38	7:13	7:28	7:02	7:36	7:09	7:30	6:59	7:54
	Oct. 5	7:44	7:04	7:34	6:53	7:44	7:00	7:38	6:48	8:03
	Oct. 10	7:52	6:53	7:43	6:42	7:53	6:48	7:49	6:35	8:15
M S T	Oct. 15	8:01	6:43	7:52	6:31	8:02	6:36	7:59	6:22	8:26
	Oct. 20	8:09	6:32	8:00	6:20	8:11	6:25	8:10	6:10	8:38
	Oct. 25	8:18	6:22	8:09	6:10	8:21	6:14	8:21	5:57	8:49
	Oct. 30	8:26	6:13	8:18	6:00	8:30	6:04	8:32	5:46	9:01
	Nov. 1	7:30	5:10	7:22	4:56	7:34	5:00	7:36	4:41	8:06
	Nov. 5	7:37	5:03	7:29	4:49	7:42	4:52	7:45	4:32	8:16
	Nov. 10	7:45	4:55	7:38	4:41	7:52	4:44	7:56	4:22	8:28
	Nov. 15	7:54	4:48	7:47	4:34	8:01	4:36	8:07	4:13	8:39
	Nov. 20	8:02	4:42	7:56	4:27	8:10	4:29	8:17	4:05	8:51
	Nov. 25	8:10	4:37	8:04	4:22	8:19	4:23	8:27	3:58	9:01
M S T	Nov. 30	8:17	4:33	8:11	4:18	8:27	4:19	8:36	3:52	9:11
	Dec. 1	8:19	4:33	8:13	4:17	8:28	4:18	8:38	3:51	9:13
	Dec. 5	8:24	4:31	8:18	4:15	8:34	4:16	8:44	3:48	9:20
	Dec. 10	8:29	4:29	8:24	4:14	8:40	4:14	8:51	3:46	9:28
	Dec. 15	8:34	4:30	8:28	4:14	8:45	4:14	8:56	3:45	9:33
	Dec. 20	8:37	4:31	8:32	4:16	8:48	4:16	9:00	3:47	9:37
	Dec. 25	8:39	4:34	8:34	4:19	8:50	4:19	9:02	3:50	9:39
	Dec. 30	8:40	4:39	8:34	4:23	8:51	4:23	9:02	3:55	9:39
	Jan. 1	8:40	4:41	8:34	4:25	8:50	4:25	9:02	3:57	9:38
	Jan. 5	8:39	4:45	8:33	4:30	8:49	4:30	9:00	4:02	9:36
M S T	Jan. 10	8:37	4:52	8:31	4:37	8:46	4:37	8:56	4:11	9:31
	Jan. 15	8:33	4:59	8:27	4:44	8:42	4:46	8:51	4:20	9:25
	Jan. 20	8:28	5:07	8:22	4:53	8:36	4:54	8:44	4:30	9:17
	Jan. 25	8:22	5:16	8:16	5:01	8:30	5:04	8:36	4:41	9:08
	Jan. 30	8:16	5:24	8:08	5:10	8:22	5:13	8:27	4:52	8:58
	Feb. 1	8:13	5:28	8:05	5:14	8:19	5:17	8:23	4:56	8:54
	Feb. 5	8:06	5:35	7:59	5:22	8:11	5:25	8:14	5:05	8:45
	Feb. 10	7:58	5:44	7:50	5:31	8:02	5:35	8:04	5:17	8:33
	Feb. 15	7:48	5:53	7:40	5:40	7:52	5:45	7:52	5:28	8:20
	Feb. 20	7:39	6:02	7:30	5:50	7:41	5:55	7:40	5:39	8:07
	Feb. 25	7:29	6:11	7:20	5:59	7:30	6:05	7:27	5:41	7:54

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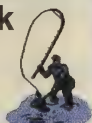
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SUNSET TABLE

Hinton		Lac La Biche		Lethbridge		Peace River		Red Deer		Whitecourt	
Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set
7:00	8:38	6:36	8:19	6:47	8:14	6:54	8:43	6:47	8:22	6:52	8:32
7:07	8:29	6:43	8:09	6:53	8:05	7:02	8:32	6:54	8:12	6:59	8:23
7:16	8:17	6:52	7:56	7:01	7:54	7:12	8:19	7:02	8:01	7:08	8:10
7:25	8:05	7:01	7:43	7:08	7:44	7:21	8:06	7:10	7:49	7:17	7:58
7:33	7:53	7:11	7:30	7:15	7:33	7:31	7:52	7:19	7:37	7:26	7:45
7:42	7:40	7:20	7:18	7:23	7:22	7:41	7:39	7:27	7:25	7:35	7:33
7:51	7:28	7:29	7:05	7:30	7:11	7:51	7:25	7:35	7:14	7:44	7:20
7:53	7:26	7:31	7:03	7:32	7:09	7:53	7:23	7:37	7:11	7:46	7:18
8:00	7:16	7:39	6:53	7:38	7:00	8:01	7:12	7:44	7:02	7:53	7:08
8:09	7:04	7:48	6:40	7:46	6:50	8:12	6:59	7:53	6:51	8:02	6:56
8:18	6:53	7:58	6:28	7:54	6:40	8:22	6:47	8:01	6:40	8:12	6:44
8:28	6:42	8:08	6:16	8:02	6:30	8:33	6:34	8:10	6:29	8:21	6:33
8:37	6:31	8:18	6:05	8:10	6:20	8:43	6:22	8:19	6:19	8:31	6:22
8:47	6:21	8:28	5:54	8:18	6:11	8:54	6:11	8:28	6:09	8:41	5:11
7:50	5:17	7:32	4:50	7:21	5:08	7:58	5:06	7:32	5:05	7:45	5:07
7:58	5:09	7:40	4:42	7:28	5:02	8:07	4:58	7:39	4:58	7:53	4:59
8:07	5:01	7:50	4:33	7:36	4:54	8:18	4:48	7:48	4:50	8:03	4:50
8:17	4:53	8:00	4:25	7:44	4:48	8:28	4:39	7:57	4:42	8:12	4:42
8:26	4:46	8:10	4:17	7:52	4:42	8:38	4:31	8:06	4:36	8:22	4:35
8:34	4:40	8:19	4:11	7:59	4:37	8:48	4:24	8:14	4:30	8:30	4:29
8:42	4:36	8:27	4:06	8:06	4:34	8:57	4:19	8:22	4:26	8:39	4:24
8:44	4:35	8:29	4:05	8:08	4:33	8:59	4:18	8:23	4:26	8:40	4:24
8:49	4:33	8:34	4:03	8:13	4:32	9:05	4:15	8:28	4:24	8:46	4:21
8:55	4:31	8:41	4:01	8:18	4:31	9:11	4:13	8:34	4:22	8:52	4:20
9:00	4:31	8:46	4:01	8:22	4:31	9:17	4:12	8:39	4:22	8:57	4:19
9:04	4:33	8:49	4:02	8:26	4:33	9:20	4:14	8:42	4:24	9:00	4:21
9:06	4:36	8:51	4:05	8:28	4:36	9:22	4:17	8:44	4:27	9:02	4:24
9:06	4:40	8:52	4:10	8:29	4:40	9:22	4:22	8:45	4:31	9:03	4:29
9:06	4:43	8:51	4:12	8:28	4:42	9:22	4:24	8:45	4:34	9:02	4:31
9:05	4:48	8:50	4:17	8:28	4:46	9:20	4:30	8:44	4:38	9:01	4:36
9:02	4:55	8:47	4:25	8:26	4:53	9:17	4:38	8:41	4:45	8:58	4:43
8:58	5:03	8:42	4:33	8:22	5:00	9:11	4:47	8:37	4:53	8:54	4:51
8:52	5:11	8:36	4:43	8:18	5:07	9:05	4:56	8:32	5:01	8:48	5:00
8:45	5:21	8:29	4:52	8:13	5:15	8:57	5:07	8:26	5:10	8:41	5:10
8:38	5:30	8:21	5:03	8:06	5:24	8:48	5:18	8:19	5:19	8:33	5:20
8:34	5:34	8:17	5:07	8:03	5:27	8:44	5:22	8:15	5:23	8:30	5:24
8:27	5:42	8:10	5:15	7:57	5:34	8:36	5:31	8:09	5:30	8:22	5:32
8:18	5:52	8:00	5:25	7:49	5:42	8:25	5:42	8:00	5:40	8:13	5:42
8:08	6:02	7:49	5:36	7:41	5:51	8:14	5:53	7:50	5:49	8:02	5:52
7:57	6:12	7:38	5:46	7:31	5:59	8:02	6:04	7:40	5:59	7:51	6:02
7:46	6:21	7:26	5:57	7:22	6:08	7:50	6:15	7:29	6:08	7:40	6:12

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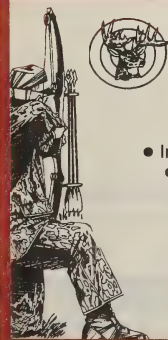
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* The draw sequence for calf moose in WMU 353 and antlerless elk in WMUs 338 and 344 applies only to a portion of the WMU.

1 The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence is valid in WMUs 310, 312, 322-356 and 360.

2 See page 30 for descriptions of 3-point or larger elk.

3 Hunting sheep is prohibited in several areas. See Restricted Areas for Trophy and Non-trophy Sheep on page 28.

4 WMUs 302 and 328 are open only for full-curl rams.


5 The baiting of black bears is permitted in WMUs 320, 322, 324, 330, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 348, 358, 359, 360, and portions of 357.

6 The Supplemental Black Bear Licence is valid in WMUs 320-360.

7 The cougar season in specific WMUs will close prior to the closing date on this table if either the total quota or the female quota for those WMUs is reached. Before hunting cougars in any WMU, hunters must ensure that the season in that WMU remains open, by calling the toll free cougar hotline (1-800-661-3729) and listening to the message listing current closures. The hotline is updated regularly, and, by calling after 4:30 pm, hunters can confirm which units will be open the next day.

Additional hunting opportunities in the Foothills WMUs:

• WMU 300 Elk Special Licence, Non-trophy Sheep Special Licence and Grizzly Bear Special Licence. Refer to page 48 for season dates or to the 2004 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for further details.

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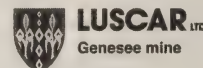
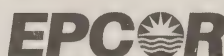
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JUNE 2004

Mountain WMUs (400 Series)

■ Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. Refer to the *2004 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet for details.

See page 7 for definitions of month abbreviations used in seasons, and see additional notes at end of this table.

Hunting is not permitted on Sundays except in the Sunday Hunting Area (see insert map).



Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
White-tailed Deer ¹	Antlered and Antlerless	S8 - S23	■ S24 - N30	404, 406, 408
		S8 - N30		410
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
	Antlered	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 429, 430, 432, 434
		S8 - S23	S24 - N30	400, 402
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	N1 - N30	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434
		S8 - S23	N1 - N15	400, 402
		A25 - S16	N1 - N15	429
Mule Deer	Antlered and Antlerless	S8 - S23	■ S24 - N30	400, 402, 404, 406, 408
		S8 - N30		410
	Antlered	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	412, 414, 417, 429, 432, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	416, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439
Moose	Antlered and Antlerless	S8 - S23	■ S24 - N30	404, 406
		S8 - N30		410
	Antlered	A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31	412, 414, 445, 446
		A25 - S23	■ S24 - N30	416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444
		■ A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	429
		S8 - S23	■ S24 - N30	408
		■ S8 - S16	■ S17 - N30	400, 402
Elk	Antlered and Antlerless	S8 - N30		410
	Antlered (6-point or larger) ² and Antlerless	S8 - S16	■ S17 - N30	404, 406, 408
	Antlered (6-point or larger) ²	A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 428, 430
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	412, 414, 426, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
	Antlered (3-point or larger) ²	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	429
		S8 - S16	S17 - N30	400, 402
	Antlerless	S8 - S16	■ S17 - N30	400, 402
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	438*, 439

*Big Game Seasons in MOUNTAIN WMUs
continued on page 44*

Hunting is not permitted on Sundays except in the Sunday Hunting Area (see insert map).

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
Goat	Not Applicable		■ S17 - O31	400, 440, 442, 444
Trophy Sheep ⁵	Resident	S8 - O31		410
		■ S8 - N30		410
			■ A25 - S23 ■ S24 - O31	437
			A25 - O31	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 429 ⁶ , 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444 ³ , 445
			■ A25 - O31	444 ⁴ , 446
			S8 - O31	400 ⁶ , 402, 404, 406, 408
		■ N1 - N30		408 (west of Highway 40)
	Non-resident and Non-resident Alien ⁷	■ S8 - N30		410
			■ S1 - O15	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444 ³ , 445
Black Bear ⁸	Fall 2004	A25 - S2	S8 - N30	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	429
		S8 - N30		410
			S8 - N30	400, 402, 404, 406, 408
	Spring 2005	Ap1 - Ma31		410
			Ap1 - Ma15	400, 402, 404, 406, 408
			Ap1 - Ma31	429
			Ap17 - Ju15	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
Cougar ⁹	Not Applicable	D1 - F28		410
			D1 - F28	400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 429, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446

* The draw season for Antlerless Elk in WMU 438 applies only to a portion of the WMU.

1 The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence is valid in WMUs 436-446.

2 See page 30 for descriptions of 3-point or larger elk and 6-point or larger elk.

3 The season for Trophy Sheep in WMU 444 applies only to the portion south of the Beaverdam Road.

4 The draw season for Trophy Sheep in WMU 444 applies only to the portion north of the Beaverdam Road.

5 Hunting of sheep is prohibited in several areas. See Restricted Areas for Trophy and Non-trophy Sheep on page 28.

6 WMUs 400 and 429 are open only for full-curl rams.

7 These seasons are only valid for hunters who have obtained Trophy Sheep Special Licences through a Class S Outfitter-guide or through a draw (Non-resident [Canadians] only).

8 The Supplemental Black Bear Licence is valid in WMUs 429 and 445.

9 The cougar season in specific WMUs will close prior to the closing date on this table if either the total quota or the female quota for those WMUs is reached. Before hunting cougars in any WMU, hunters must ensure that the season in that WMU remains open, by calling the toll-free cougar hotline (1-800-661-3729) and listening to the message listing current closures. The hotline is updated regularly, and, by calling after 4:30 p.m., hunters can confirm which units will be open the next day.

Additional hunting opportunities in the Mountain WMUs:

- Non-trophy Sheep Special Licence, Trophy Sheep Special Licence (portion of WMU 408 lying west of Highway 40 or in WMU 446 and that portion of WMU 444 north of Beaverdam Road), and Grizzly Bear Special Licence. Refer to page 48 for season dates or to the *2004 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet for further details.

Boreal WMUs (500 Series & 841)

■ Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. Refer to the *2004 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet for details.

See page 7 for definitions of month abbreviations used in seasons, and see additional notes at end of this table.

Bison – In the area west of highway 35 and north of the Chinchaga River and the Keg River Metis Settlement, bison is a protected species. No one is allowed to hunt bison in this area.

Hunting is not permitted on Sundays except in the Sunday Hunting Area (see insert map).

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
White-tailed Deer ¹	Antlered and Antlerless	S8 - O31	N1 - N30	500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510
		A25 - A31	S1 - N30	511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 542, 544
	Antlered	A25 - A31	S1 - N30	518, 519, 520, 524, 525, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 536, 539, 540
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	521, 522, 523, 526, 527, 535, 537
			S17 - N30	841
	Antlerless	A25 - A31	N1 - N30	518, 519, 520, 524, 525, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 536, 539, 540
		A25 - S16	N1 - N7	522, 526
			N1 - N30	841
		A25 - S16	N1 - N30	521, 523, 527, 535, 537
	Antlered and Antlerless	S8 - O31	■ N1 - N30	500, 505, 507, 508, 509, 510
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	521, 522, 523, 526, 527
		A25 - A31	S1 - N30	511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 524, 525, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 536, 539, 540, 542, 544
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	535, 537
		S8 - O31	■ N1 - N30	501, 502, 503, 504, 506
			S17 - N30	841
Moose	Antlered and Antlerless	S8 - O31	■ N1 - N30	500, 502, 506, 507, 509
		■ S8 - O31	■ N1 - N30	508
	Antlered		■ S17 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	841
		A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	521, 522, 523, 526, 527, 535, 537
		A25 - A31	■ S1 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 519, 520, 524, 525, 528, 536, 544
		A25 - A31	■ S1 - O31	517, 518, 529, 530, 542
			N1 - N30 ²	517, 518, 529, 530, 542
		S8 - O31	■ N1 - N30	503, 504, 505, 510
		A25 - A31	■ S1 - N30 ³	531, 532, 534, 539, 540
	Antlerless (calf only)	S8 - O31	■ N1 - N30	505, 510
		■ A25 - S23	■ N1 - N30	522, 523, 526, 527

Big Game Seasons in BOREAL WMUs continued on page 47

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Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
Elk	Antlered (6-point or larger) ⁴	S8 - O31	■ N1 - N30	509
	Antlered (3-point or larger) ⁴	S8 - O31	N1 - N30	504, 505, 507, 510
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	521, 522, 523, 527
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	■ S17 - D20	521, 522, 523, 526, 527
		S8 - O31	■ N1 - D20	504, 507, 509, 510
	Antlered	A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	526
Black Bear ^{5,6}	Fall 2004	A25 - A31	S1 - N30	511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 524, 525, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 536, 539, 540, 542, 544
		A25 - S2	S8 - N30	521, 522, 523, 526, 527, 535, 537
			S8 - N30	500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510
			S17 - N30	841
	Spring 2005		Ap1 - Ma15	841
			Ap1 - Ma31	500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510
			Ap17 - Jul15	511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 535, 536, 537, 539, 540, 542, 544
Cougar ⁷	Not Applicable		D1 - F28	505, 507, 510

¹ The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence is valid in WMUs 500-511, 520, 523-525, 528, 534-544. The 2nd tag will only be valid in WMUs 500, 502, 503, 504, 506, 509 and 510.

² Hunters with Antlered Moose Special Licences obtained through a draw are not eligible to hunt during this season.

³ If hunting with an Outfitter-Guide, hunters should note these WMUs are split into two seasons: Sept. 1 – Oct. 31 or Nov. 1 – Nov. 30.

⁴ See page 30 for description of 3-point or larger elk and 6-point or larger elk.

⁵ The baiting of black bears is permitted in WMUs 500-507, 509, 510, 512-520, 522, 523, 526, 529-536, 539-542 and portions of 521, 528 and 544.

⁶ The Supplemental Black Bear Licence is valid in WMUs 500-544 and 841.

⁷ The cougar season in specific WMUs will close prior to the closing date on this table if either the total quota or the female quota for those WMUs is reached. Before hunting cougars in any WMU, hunters must ensure that the season in that WMU remains open, by calling the toll-free cougar hotline (1-800-661-3729) and listening to the message listing current closures. The hotline is updated regularly, and, by calling after 4:30 p.m., hunters can confirm which units will be open the next day.



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Season Dates And Locations (refer to page 7 for month abbreviations)

Non-trophy Sheep Special Licence

Areas 416, 418A*, 418B*, 420, 422A*, 426A*, 430A*, 430B*, 432, 434A*, 434B*, 437, 438A*, 438C*, 438D*, 440, 442, 444, 445A*, 445B*	S8 - O31
Areas (402 - 303, 306)*, 402 - 308*, 402A*, 406A*, 406B*, 408A*, 408B*	S11 - O31
Area 410	S8 - N30

* These areas comprise either a portion of one WMU or all of one WMU and a portion of an adjacent WMU. See descriptions in the *2004 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet.

Camp Wainwright Deer Special Licence (WMUs 728 and 730)

Primitive Weapons	N25 - N27
Rifle	N29 - D1, D2 - D4, D6 - D8, D9 - D11

Antelope Archery Special Licence

WMUs 102, 104, 106, 108, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166	S8 - S25
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------

Trophy Antelope Special Licence

WMUs 138, 142, 144, 150, 151, 152, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166	S27 - O2
WMUs 102, 104, 106, 108, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 140, 148	O18 - O23

Non-trophy Antelope Special Licence

WMUs 128, 140	O21 - O23, O25 - O27
WMUs 150, 151, 152, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166	S30 - O2, O7 - O9

Cypress Hills Elk Special Licence

WMUs 116, 118, 119 and 624	Tue., Wed., Thu., Fri. only, O5 - N26
WMUs 116, 118 and 119	Tue., Wed., Thu., Fri. only, N30, 2004 - J7, 2005

WMU 300 Elk Special Licence	S8 - O24, O25 - D24, D25 - F21, 2005
-----------------------------------	--------------------------------------

Grizzly Bear Special Licence

The list of WMUs that will be open for the 2005 spring hunt will be available in winter 2004.

Refer to the *2005 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet for details on what seasons will be open and how to apply for special licences that will be available in the fall 2005 and spring 2006.

Other Species

Season Dates and Locations

NOTE: It is unlawful, with the following exceptions, to allow the pelt of any furbearing animal to be wasted:

It is not legally necessary to salvage pelts of 1) furbearing animals taken in accordance with regulations authorizing control of problem wildlife, or 2) coyotes harvested, by residents, outside of public lands in the Green Area.

Timber Wolf

A Resident may, without a licence, hunt (but not trap) timber wolf from the opening of any big game season in a particular WMU to May 31, 2005, or until June 15, 2005 in WMUs where black bear seasons are open until June 15, 2005.

A Non-resident or Non-resident Alien who holds a Non-resident/Non-resident Alien Wolf/Coyote Licence may hunt (but not trap) timber wolf from the opening of any big game season in a particular WMU to May 31, 2005, or until June 15, 2005 in WMUs where black bear seasons are open until June 15, 2005.

It is unlawful to use bait to hunt wolves during spring black bear seasons where baiting is not allowed for black bear (see page 33).

Coyote

A Resident may, without a licence and on land to which he or she has the right of access, hunt (but not trap) coyote at all times of the year throughout the province, except as follows:

- 1) on public lands in the Green Area, only from October 1, 2004 to February 28, 2005, and
- 2) in Camp Wainwright (WMUs 728 and 730), only from December 13, 2004 to February 28, 2005.

See page 24 for information on coyote hunting for control of livestock predation.

Subject to the exception (*) below, a Non-resident or Non-resident Alien who holds a valid Non-resident/Non-resident Alien Wolf/Coyote Licence may hunt coyote on lands to which he or she has the right of access at all times of the year throughout the province – except on public lands in the Green Area where the season is from October 1, 2004 to February 28, 2005.

*Exception: if a big game season (other than a cougar season) is open in the area he or she is hunting, then the Non-resident or Non-resident Alien hunter of coyotes must possess a current big game licence issued for that area and open season.

Red Fox and Badger

A Resident may, without a licence and at all times of the year, hunt (but not trap) red fox and hunt badger on any privately owned land to which he or she has the right of access.

Bobcat

A resident may, without a licence and at all times of the year, hunt (but not trap) bobcat in WMUs 102, 104, 106, 108, 112, 116, 118, 119 and in the portion of WMU 110 that lies east of highway 2 and south of highway 3.

Other Animals

Porcupine, rabbit, hare, skunk, raccoon and woodchuck may be hunted, but not trapped*, without a licence throughout the province, at all times of the year.

* The trapping of rabbit, hare, skunk and raccoon is authorized without a licence under some circumstances. Please refer to the *2004 Alberta Guide to Trapping Regulations*, available in September, 2004.

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Falconry Hunting

Holders of a Recreational Falconry Permit are permitted to hunt upland game birds and migratory game birds, by means of falconry, in all areas of the province except in national parks and those restricted areas identified on pages 24 through 29. In order to hunt game birds with a falconry bird, a falconer requires a Wildlife Certificate plus

- a Game Bird Licence if hunting grouse, partridge or ptarmigan;
- a Game Bird Licence and a Pheasant Licence if hunting pheasants; or
- a Game Bird Licence and a Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit if hunting migratory game birds.

Seasons

The open season to hunt upland game birds by means of falconry is from August 15, 2004 to March 31, 2005 (Sundays included). Migratory game birds may be hunted by means of falconry during the designated open season for migratory birds (Sundays included) (pages 52 to 56).

Bowhunting

Hunters wishing to hunt game birds with a bow and arrow, other than a cross-bow, require a Bowhunting Permit in addition to the other applicable licences.

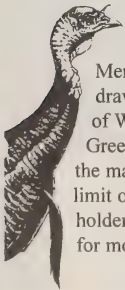
Designated Pheasant Release Sites

The operation of the pheasant hatchery at Brooks was privatized in April 2000 with a non-government partnership, the Canadian Pheasant Company. For more information about the pheasant release program, please contact the Canadian Pheasant Company (403-362-4122).

During the open season for male pheasants, the hunting of game birds, including pheasants, is not permitted in the following designated pheasant release sites after 2:00 p.m. on any day, except Saturdays.

WMU

- 152 Millicent Buck for Wildlife Project (NE19 and 30-20-13-W4)
- 206 Buffalo Lake Buck for Wildlife Project (9 and SW10-40-21-W4)
- 210 Bigelow Buck for Wildlife Project (3, E9, SW10 & LSD 12 and 13 of 10-34-25-W4)



Merriam's Turkey Draw

Merriam's Turkey Special Licences are issued through a draw. Licences will be valid in all of WMU 302 and that part of WMU 305 that is within the shaded area (refers to the Green Area established under the *Public Lands Act*) shown on the map. The season is from May 1 to May 31, 2005 with a bag limit of one bearded Merriam's turkey per special licence holder. Please read the *2004 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet for more information on how to apply for this draw.

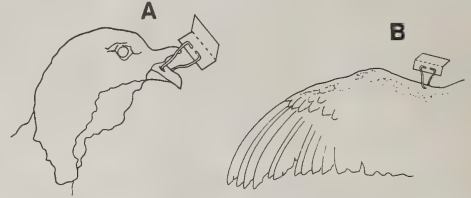
Each Merriam's turkey harvested must be tagged

- immediately after the bird is killed, and
- in the manner described below with the paper tag supplied with each licence. All instructions on the back of the paper tag must be followed.

Tags must remain affixed until the carcass is delivered to

- the usual residence of the person who killed it, and is butchered, cut and packaged for consumption, or
- to a premises in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act*.

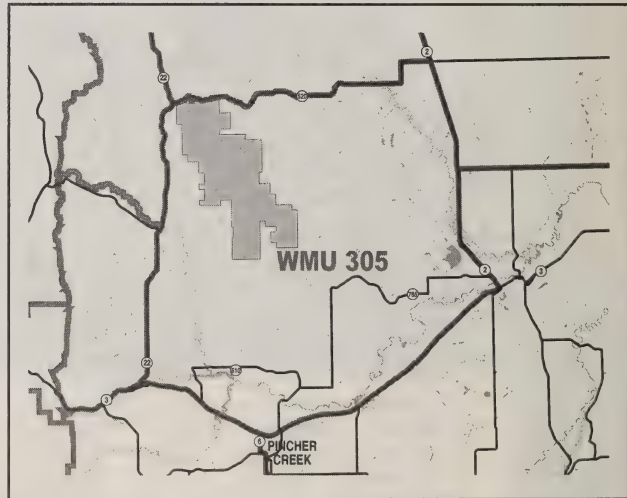
Merriam's Turkey Tagging Instructions



Tagging Instructions: (A) place wire through the nares, or (B) through the patagium between the tendon and the bones of the wing.

Please refer to items 2, 12 and 13 of Prohibitions, Game Bird section (pages 13 and 14) for additional requirements concerning weapons and evidence of sex and species for Merriam's turkey.

WMU 305



West Nile Virus

Are hunters at risk of West Nile virus when handling hunter-killed birds?

Health officials advise that there is no evidence or reason to believe that there is any risk of getting West Nile virus from handling hunter-killed birds in Alberta. Free-flying birds are unlikely to contain sufficient virus to pass on an infection. In addition, the only evidence of direct transfer of West Nile virus from birds to humans without going through a mosquito are two accidental infections when lab technicians were handling heavily infected crows. Similarly, hunting dogs are not at risk when retrieving hunter-killed birds.

Hunters are advised to take precautions against being bitten by mosquitoes, which are common in wetland habitats and are active at dawn and dusk when temperatures are suitable for insect activity.

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About ACA

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Special Hunting Areas

In WMUs 212 and 248 the hunting of game birds is only permitted with bows and arrows, cross-bows, shotguns or a falconry bird.

In WMU 410 the hunting of game birds is permitted only with bows and arrows or a falconry bird.

Please Remember

Federal regulations prohibit the use of lead shot or cross-bows for hunting waterfowl.

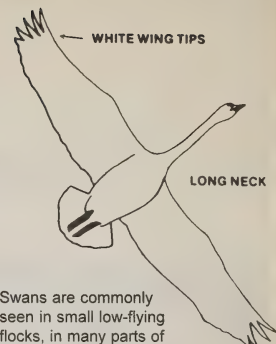
All birds are protected except the following: Starlings, Crows, Pigeons, House (English) Sparrows, Magpies, Blackbirds, Common Grackles, Brown-headed Cowbirds, Ravens (hunted on private land by residents) and any other birds for which an open season has been declared by the regulations as indicated in this summary.

SAGE GROUSE ARE PROTECTED

Sage grouse are listed as an Endangered species in Alberta. If you hunt upland game birds within the range of sage grouse, be sure your target is not a sage grouse.



SNOW GOOSE



Swans are commonly seen in small low-flying flocks, in many parts of Alberta during the late fall.

SWAN (Do Not Shoot)

GAME BIRD BAG LIMITS

Species	Daily Limit	Possession Limit	Species	Daily Limit	Possession Limit	Requirements
Male Pheasant	2	6	Snow Goose and Ross' Goose	20	60	(a) of which not more than five (5) may be white-fronted geese. (b) of which not more than ten (10) may be white-fronted geese. (c) of which not more than four (4) may be a pintail. (d) of which not more than eight (8) may be pintails. (e) may be hunted with Special Licence only.
Ruffed Grouse	10	20	Canada Goose and White-fronted Goose	8 (a)	16 (b)	
Sharp-tailed Grouse	5	10	Ducks	8 (c)	16 (d)	
Ptarmigan	5	20	Common Snipe	10	20	
Blue Grouse	5	10	Coot	10	20	
Spruce Grouse	10	20	Merriam's Turkey	1 (e)	1 (e)	
Gray Partridge	5	10				

GAME BIRD SEASONS

Prairie WMUs (100 Series)

See page 7 for definitions of month abbreviations used in seasons.

Hunting is not permitted on Sundays, except in the Sunday Hunting Area (see insert map), and except for white geese which may be hunted on Sundays throughout the province.



Species	Season	WMUs
Male Pheasants	O15 - N15	102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166
Ruffed and Spruce Grouse	S15 - N30	108, 110, 132, 151, 152, 156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166
Sharp-tailed Grouse	O1 - O31	102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166
Gray Partridge	S15 - N30	
Ducks, Coots, Common Snipe, White-fronted and Canada Geese and Snow and Ross' Geese (including falconry hunting)	S8 - D23	102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166

Parkland WMUs (200 Series & 728, 730, 936)

See page 7 for definitions of month abbreviations used in seasons.

Hunting is not permitted on Sundays, except in the Sunday Hunting Area (see insert map), and except for white geese which may be hunted on Sundays throughout the province.



Species	Season	WMUs
Male Pheasants	O15 - N15	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 936 ¹
Ruffed and Spruce Grouse	S15 - N30	
Sharp-tailed Grouse	O1 - N15	214, 216, 221, 224
	O1 - O31	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 220, 222, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 936 ¹
Gray Partridge	S15 - N30	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 936 ¹
Ruffed and Sharp-tailed Grouse (Camp Wainwright) ²	S4 - S6	728, 730
Ducks, Coots, Common Snipe, White-fronted and Canada Geese and Snow and Ross' Geese (including falconry hunting)	S1 - D16	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 936 ¹
	S8 - D23	210, 212, 214

¹ Hunters (including bowhunters) require a Firearms Discharge Permit to hunt in WMU 936. Self-registration discharge permits are no longer available. All hunters for WMU 936 are required to attend a safety orientation prior to receiving their discharge permit. Please contact the Cooking Lake/Blackfoot Grazing, Wildlife and Recreation Area office, (780-922-3293) in order to receive information regarding orientation dates and requirements for obtaining your discharge permit.

² WARNING: Hazards in the form of unexploded military munitions may exist throughout Camp Wainwright. Hunters are advised not to touch any foreign objects. **Camp Wainwright officials have advised that all hunters using shotguns to hunt game birds at Camp Wainwright must use non-toxic shot. Lead shot is not allowed.**



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Foothills WMUs (300 Series)

■ Indicates a season that only applies to hunters with a Merriam's Turkey Special Licence. Refer to the 2004 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet.

See page 7 for definitions of month abbreviations used in seasons.

Hunting is not permitted on Sundays, except in the Sunday Hunting Area (see insert map), and except for white geese which may be hunted on Sundays throughout the province.



Species	Season	WMUs
Male Pheasants	S1 - O31	350, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360
	O15 - N15	300, 302, 304, 305, 310, 312, 314, 320, 322, 330, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 348, 349
Ruffed and Spruce Grouse	S1 - N30	316, 318, 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360
	S15 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 342, 348
Blue Grouse	S1 - N30	316, 318, 326, 328, 344, 347, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356
	S15 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 320, 324, 339, 340, 342
Sharp-tailed Grouse	S1 - N30	344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352
	O1 - O31	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360
	O1 - N15	310, 312, 314, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 342, 348
Ptarmigan	S1 - D15	316, 318, 355, 356
Gray Partridge	S1 - N30	344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 352, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360
	S15 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 320, 322, 324, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 340, 342, 348
Merriam's Turkey	■ 2005 Ma1 - Ma31	302, and part of 305 (see page 50).
Ducks, Coots, Common Snipe, White-fronted and Canada Geese and Snow and Ross' Geese (including falconry hunting)	S1 - D16	316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360
	S8 - D23	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314

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GAME BIRD SEASONS

Mountain WMUs (400 Series)

See page 7 for definitions of month abbreviations used in seasons.

Hunting is not permitted on Sundays, except in the Sunday Hunting Area (see insert map), and except for white geese which may be hunted on Sundays throughout the province.



Species	Season	WMUs
Ruffed and Spruce Grouse	S1 - N30	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
	S15 - N30	400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 429
Blue Grouse	S1 - N30	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
	S15 - N30	400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 429
Sharp-tailed Grouse	O1 - O31	400, 402
Ptarmigan	S1 - N30	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
	S15 - N30	400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410
Ducks, Coots, Common Snipe, White-fronted and Canada Geese and Snow and Ross' Geese (including falconry hunting)	S1 - D16	400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 429, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446

GAME BIRD SEASONS

Boreal WMUs (500 Series & 841)

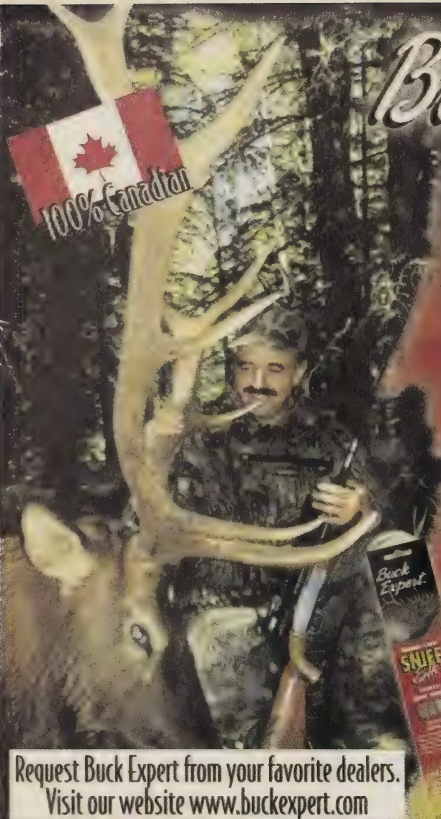
See page 7 for definitions of month abbreviations used in seasons.

Hunting is not permitted on Sundays, except in the Sunday Hunting Area (see insert map), and except for white geese which may be hunted on Sundays throughout the province.



Species	Season	WMUs
Male Pheasants	S1 - O31	511, 521, 522, 523, 526, 527, 535, 544
	O15 - N15	500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 514, 515
Ruffed and Spruce Grouse	S1 - N30	501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 509, 510, 511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 535, 536, 537, 539, 540, 542, 544
	S15 - N30	500, 507, 508, 841
Sharp-tailed Grouse	S1 - N30	511, 512, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 524, 525, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 535, 536, 537, 539, 540, 542, 544
	O1 - O31	521, 522, 523, 526, 527
	O1 - N15	500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 514, 515, 841
Ptarmigan	S1 - D15	518, 519, 520, 524, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 535, 536, 537, 539, 540, 542, 544

Game Bird Seasons in BOREAL WMUs continued on page 57



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Game Bird Seasons in BOREAL WMUs continued)

Hunting is not permitted on Sundays except in the Sunday Hunting Area (see insert map), and except for white geese which may be hunted on Sundays throughout the province.

Species	Season	WMUs
Gray Partridge	S1 - N30	500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 509, 510, 511, 514, 515, 521, 522, 523, 526, 527, 544
	S15 - N30	507, 508
Ducks, Coots, Common Snipe, White-fronted and Canada Geese and Snow and Ross' Geese (including falconry hunting)	S1 - D16	500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 535, 536, 537, 539, 540, 542, 544
	S15 - D16	841

HUNTING WITH CROSS-BOWS

Since the fall season of 2002, cross-bows are not "prohibited" for hunting wildlife in Alberta, although there may be federal licensing requirements. See page 22 for federal government contact information. Cross-bows may not be used to hunt big game during archery-only seasons. The only exception is for an eligible handicapped hunter who has obtained a cross-bow licence. A Bowhunting Permit, as required by bowhunters using conventional archery equipment, is **not** required by persons who are hunting with cross-bows during seasons not designated as archery only.

In accordance with federal regulations, cross-bows may not be used for waterfowl hunting. Persons hunting big game with a cross-bow must use an authorized cross-bow and arrow (bolt). An authorized cross-bow is one that requires 100 pounds or more of pull to draw the string or cable to its cocked position. There is no restriction on arrow length however the tip must bear a sharp, unbarbed 3 bladed bodkin head or a sharp steel unbarbed cutting head of at least 7/8 inch in width.

GAME MANAGEMENT

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD) IN ALBERTA:

There is some public and media concern about potential human health risks associated with CWD. The Fish and Wildlife Division, in conjunction with Alberta Health and Wellness, has evaluated the risk and concluded that **all current information suggests that human infection with CWD is highly unlikely. In particular, the risk to humans who eat wild meat taken in Alberta is near-zero.**

Due to scientific and logistical constraints, surveillance programs must target specific areas.

Detailed programs for 2004 are being developed at the time of writing this summary, but before hunting seasons open, they will be identified in various Fish and Wildlife communications as well as on the Divisional web pages [www3.gov.ab.ca/srd/fw/].

As far as we know, Chronic Wasting Disease only infects members of the deer family. Clinical signs include weight loss, excessive salivation, lethargy, uncoordinated movement, and drooping head and ears. Based on current knowledge, this disease is limited to deer and elk (CWD has never been found in moose), affects individual body condition, does not spread rapidly, and has limited short-term impact on affected populations. There is a perceived theoretical human health risk associated with CWD; although there is no credible evidence to support this perception and growing evidence that it is unlikely.

For 2004, heads from hunter-killed **adult** deer and elk are requested from two target areas:

- Alberta/Saskatchewan border from Lloydminster to Provost, including WMUs 234, 236, 256, and 500.
- central Alberta, including WMUs 248 (areas NORTH of Hwy 16), 250, 507, 508 and 349 (areas EAST of Hwy 32).

Alberta has scientifically-credible risk assessments and surveillance programs for CWD. **However, we need your help.** The primary surveillance of wild deer and elk is based on voluntary submission of heads of hunter-killed animals. To June 2004, we have tested over 5000 heads of wild white-tailed deer, mule deer, and elk. **ALL SAMPLES FROM WILD DEER AND ELK IN ALBERTA WERE NEGATIVE FOR CWD.**

In addition to the wild surveillance, over 19,000 farmed elk and deer in Alberta have been tested (up to May 2004). CWD was found in one farmed elk and two farmed white-tailed deer. The national CWD control and eradication program was implemented and appropriate animals humanely removed and tested. No additional cases have been detected.

Check the Wildlife Diseases web pages [www3.gov.ab.ca/srd/fw/diseases/index.html] for additional background information about CWD.

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Marked Wildlife

Some species of wildlife are banded, collared or marked by other means in an ongoing effort to gain additional population biology information. You can assist and cooperate in these programs by reporting encounters with any marked animal to the nearest Fish and Wildlife Division office (page 10).

Some of these marked wildlife, as well as certain nuisance animals (e.g., some black bears), may have received drugs for medicinal purposes or to facilitate their capture and handling. Any such animal will be marked with a tag advising that the meat of the animal should not be consumed before contacting the Fish and Wildlife Division of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development.

Population Status Information

Information from the harvest questionnaires, compulsory registrations and animal population surveys helps to determine the annual status of wildlife populations. It also helps monitor changes in animal populations over time. The information that hunters provide through programs like the harvest questionnaire and compulsory registration is vital to the management of Alberta's wildlife resource. The Fish and Wildlife

Report Waterfowl Leg Bands by Telephone

All waterfowl leg bands recovered in North America can now be reported by telephoning the toll-free number **1-800-327-BAND** (1-800-327-2263). Calls can be made from anywhere in Canada or the United States, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. However, operators are only available from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern time, Monday to Friday. After-hours and weekend callers will hear a recorded message requesting they leave their name and daytime telephone number so that the Bird Banding Lab can call them back. Recovered bands can still be reported by mail, or to the nearest office of the Fish and Wildlife Division (page 10), if you do not wish to report the band by telephone.

Division thanks all hunters who have cooperated by providing information.

A summary of the latest report on this information, *Harvest and Effort by Resident Hunters*, is posted on the Alberta Sustainable Resource Development Web site (<http://www3.gov.ab.ca/srd/fw/hunting/>). Click on *Hunter Information*.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Alberta North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) Partnership



As the NAWMP Partnership enters its 18th year in Alberta, the protection and restoration of important waterfowl habitat continues. Along with many Albertans, NAWMP partners are awaiting the return of improved wetland conditions, so wetlands will be able to meet their potential in supporting increased numbers of breeding and migrating waterfowl, and many other game and non-game species as well. Although the winter and spring of 2004

brought what seemed adequate precipitation, the ongoing dry soil conditions soaked up the spring melt water like a sponge over much of Alberta. However, there were some bright spots like the Brooks irrigation habitat, parts of the Milk River Ridge and there was improvement in water levels in the Bonnyville/Cold Lake areas.

In southern Alberta, Alberta NAWMP is focused on restoring populations of the northern pintail. To this end, thousands of acres of native prairie have been purchased along the Milk River Ridge. Where wetlands are numerous, cultivated land is being returned to permanent grass cover and drained wetlands are being restored. With a combination of land purchase, conservation easements and a variety of extension methods large tracts of land are being better managed for both wildlife and as ranch land.

In the Aspen Parkland, NAWMP partners continue to support landowners in voluntary stewardship activities, and promote government policies that lead to the conservation of native habitat and the retention of wetlands. An inventory of native

parkland has been invaluable in targeting the best places to spend Alberta NAWMP Partnership dollars. Many research studies have shown that native habitat supports a greater diversity of wildlife species than any other habitat that has been altered by man. Many game species thrive on Alberta NAWMP lands.

An ongoing program in the Peace Parkland promotes improved stewardship of known trumpeter swan nesting wetlands. Much is being learned as to how to conserve critical habitat for this provincially important species. Waterfowl and waterbird surveys are continuing to provide a better understanding of the important role wetlands in the parkland/boreal transition zone play in providing additional brood rearing habitat, particularly when areas to the south are drier than normal. Wetlands in this transition zone are under increasing pressure from other land uses.

Alberta Fish and Wildlife Division is a key partner of the Alberta NAWMP Partnership. The investment in NAWMP of Fish and Wildlife is multiplied many times over when combined with the contributions of other NAWMP partners. Together, these partners complete habitat projects that directly increase the production of game that Alberta hunters can take advantage of.

Most Alberta NAWMP properties are available for hunting by foot access only. Land management arrangements may result in some access restrictions, so please remember to ask permission before entering any of these properties by calling your local Ducks Unlimited Canada office. For more information on the Alberta NAWMP Partnership visit the website at www.nawmp.ab.ca.

Alberta NAWMP Partners: Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, Alberta Environment, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Environment Canada, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Nature Conservancy of Canada.



"WHERE WATER WORKS WONDERS"

The EID manages its land with a multi-use concept. Hunting is generally permitted on EID owned grasslands but the following guidelines must be followed.

- Vehicles must stay on established roads • No ATVs or motorbikes
- No camping or fires except in designated areas • No hunting near livestock
- Obey all signs, some areas have added restrictions

Access to these private lands is a privilege not a right, please "USE RESPECT AND HUNT WITH CARE".

Contact our office in Brooks for further information at 403-362-1400.

WISE Foundation and Alberta Conservation Education Program

The Conservation Education W.I.S.E. Foundation and The Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association exist entirely for the purpose of providing Fish and Wildlife Conservation Education programs to Albertans.

Programs include Alberta Fishing Education, Alberta Conservation and Hunter Education, Outdoor Camp Programs, Wildlife and Fisheries Seminars, Canadian Firearms Safety Course, Outdoor Women's Seminars,

Outdoor Youth Seminars and many others. All these programs are provided by volunteer instructors who have been trained and certified.

Facilities include the Calgary and Edmonton Conservation Education Centres for Excellence, the Alford Lake Conservation Education Centre for Excellence and the Calgary Firearms Centre.

For more information, please visit our website at www.ahea.com or phone Edmonton # 780-466-6682, 1-866-252-4342; Calgary # 403-252-8474, 1-866-852-4342.

USE RESPECT Program

The *Use Respect* program encourages recreational land users and landholders to understand and respect each other's rights and needs.

First introduced in 1983, the *Use Respect* program was designed in response to the concerns of farmers and ranchers about the general public accessing their land. Many groups, including outdoors people supported the campaign that appealed to all Albertans to act responsibly by observing the rights and property of others.

Use Respect signs, which provide people with information about limited access, restrictions on motorized vehicles, and who should be contacted for permission, are available at no charge at local Fish and Wildlife Division offices.

Please begin your hunt by obtaining permission from the landholder.

Use Respect. All you have to do is ask!

REPORT A POACHER

In Alberta Dial Toll Free: 1-800-642-3800



Alberta Conservation Association's **REPORT A POACHER** program provides Albertans with the opportunity to report suspected violations using a toll-free number:

1-800-642-3800 or #3800 on the TELUS Mobility network (courtesy TELUS Mobility). The line is in operation 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Fishing or hunting out of season, night hunting, exceeding bag limits, illegal sale of fish and wildlife and deposit of harmful substances in lakes and rivers are violations that seriously affect fish and wildlife in Alberta. If you see or know of a violation, you should record all information, including

- date
- time
- location
- vehicle licence number
- vehicle description
- description of person(s) involved
- details of violation, and any other details, no matter how insignificant they may seem. You should then contact the nearest Fish and Wildlife Division office or call **1-800-642-3800** as soon as possible.

If the information provided concerns a resource violation and results in the laying of a charge, the reporter may be eligible for a reward. If you have any questions about this program, please contact the nearest Fish and Wildlife Division office (page 10).

Wild Game Public Health Advisory

The wild game public health advisory for the Swan Hills area — originally issued on December 13, 1996, by the Provincial Health Officer — has been revised as a result of more extensive wild game testing. While recent test results confirm that eating wild game from the Swan Hills area poses no immediate threat to human health, it is recommended that individuals limit the amount of wild game eaten.

Wild game meat samples taken from near Swan Hills Treatment Centre were found to have elevated levels of PCBs, dioxins and furans. Because these contaminants may accumulate over time, the following precautionary measures are recommended:

- Limit consumption of wild game taken from within a 30-km radius (see map below) of the Swan Hills Treatment Centre to 13 ounces (370 grams) per month.
- Avoid eating organ meat (liver, kidney) or using fat from game harvested within a 30-km radius.
- If you are pregnant or breast feeding, avoid eating meat from wild game taken within a 30-km radius.
- Young children should avoid eating meat taken from within a 30-km radius.
- Continue to avoid eating fish taken from within a 30-km radius until fish sample testing is complete.

The advisory applies to animals taken last fall, as well as to those that will be taken in the coming year. It is in effect until further notice.

For more information, contact the Medical Officer of Health, Aspen Regional Authority at (780) 349-8705.



Regulations encourage co-operation and respect

In 2003, the Government of Alberta clarified the rules for recreational access to agricultural public lands leased for grazing or cultivation.

New legislation requires you to contact the leaseholder before you access this leased land (does not include forest grazing allotments in the forested area of the foothills).

You can find contacts and other information on the land by using a new website and a toll-free hotline launched last year.

The leaseholder must allow reasonable foot access, but can say no if:

- access is by anything other than foot, for example, by off-highway vehicle.
- livestock are present in a fenced pasture, or a crop has not yet been harvested. (If livestock are not impacted by the visit, leaseholders are expected to provide access.)
- a fire ban is in effect.
- you wish to camp or you want to hunt in an area where livestock are nearby.

If there is a disagreement, a dispute resolution process is available.

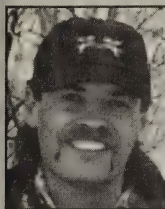


When you visit, remember:

- pack out all litter;
- park vehicles so they do not block access to the land;
- refrain from lighting fires without consent;
- leave gates in the same state in which they were found (e.g., closed); and
- be careful not to damage the land or leaseholders' property.

**For more information, please call
1-866-279-0023 or visit
<http://www3.gov.ab.ca/srd>**

MESSAGE from the PUBLISHER



Rob Miskosky

"There's gonna' be some big bucks taken this year," a good friend said to me before last season. "There are a ton of deer out there."

And he was right. Many large deer were taken this past season and excitement exists

for the same to unfold this year.

Deer populations in Alberta have blossomed and as a result more opportunity exists for Alberta's deer hunters. Many northern WMUs have had the "No Sunday Hunting" restriction removed and several doe seasons have been extended as well. Deer hunter Utopia is upon us.

Now, having said that, why is it that so many of us have yet to connect with that big brute that fills our dreams? You know the deer; those that sport legendary names such as 'Ol Mossy Horns. Could it be that these secretive deer are just that much smarter than most of us?

For two Alberta deer hunters this past season the hunting Gods were indeed smiling. Both Jack Mast of Barrhead and Sheldon Coderre of Medicine Hat put down deer that legends are made of.

Jack's whitetail is an incredible deer that sports 26-inch main beams with 12 and 13-inch G-2's and fantastic mass with H-3's that measure 7 4/8 and 8 1/8-inches. Jack's deer netted a super 199 7/8 (official) falling just 4 3/8-inches short of the provincial record.

Sheldon's mulie buck is also an incredible deer. This buck grossed a fantastic 242 5/8 and netted 201 2/8 (official), falling just 4 6/8-inches short of the provincial record. This deer must have dominated Alberta's southern landscape as King of the Prairie for some time. Both hunters need to be congratulated on fine 2003 hunting seasons.

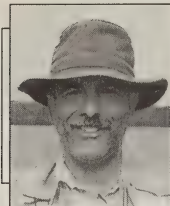
Dean Pederson of Hinton must also be congratulated for the huge bull elk he took out of WMU 438. This elk scored a tremendous 373 1/8 (official) and makes Dean our 2003 Elk Hunter of the Year.

All three hunters should be extremely proud of their accomplishments afield this past season and must indeed look forward to 2004 with great excitement. You can see all three trophies on page 76.

For the rest of us who still seek out that legendary buck or monster bull elk, our dreams have been renewed by their success and we too must look forward to the 2004 season with unabated anticipation. After all, when you live in Alberta, opportunity is plenty and it is good to be a hunter.

Good luck everybody!

Team Moose



by
**Don
Meredith**

A few years ago, a friend of mine who studies socio-economics—or the how and why people do the things they do—invited 20 or so moose hunters to meet with his team of researchers and discuss what it means to hunt moose. We all gathered in a room in Edmonton and talked about why we were so committed to devoting a week or more of our time each year, a substantial portion of our paycheques, and our energy and skill to stalk the wily slobber nose through the fall forests and muskegs. Although the study itself was interesting, I was fascinated with the wide variety of people in the room. We were from different "walks of life" but with a similar passion for the outdoors and specifically moose hunting. What was particularly interesting to me was how similarly we chose the people with whom we hunt.

Going on a hunting trip by yourself is never the best idea, but you can do it when you're hunting deer, sheep or antelope. Once you bag an animal it's good to have someone help you haul it out, but it's not necessary. With moose

or elk, you need help just to field dress the animal properly. Thus, moose and elk hunters hunt in groups and share in whatever is bagged. Individuals may hunt by themselves, but they call the group together when an animal is down.

However, choosing members of your hunting group or trying to join an already established hunting group can be a daunting process. A long established moose hunting team is often like a college fraternity or secret society where each member knows the special handshake, the inside jokes and the foibles of the other members. They can be very reluctant to add another member unless 1) there is room for him, 2) the person comes highly recommended by at least one of the members, and most importantly 3) he qualifies as a member.

What qualifies a person for membership varies from group to group. Some aren't so picky, others are. Friendship is often the first requirement. Taking a total stranger hunting can be risky. You want to know something about the guy, that he acts safely, that he thinks and acts along similar lines to other members of the group. For example, you need to know whether a prospective member respects the law and regulations or will be likely to present the group with a legal problem that may be difficult to solve.

Probably like most groups, our moose hunting team has evolved over the 30+ years we've been together. At first it was just two of us who

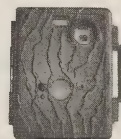
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*Find out what's there
when you're not*



"The core of our Team Moose includes (l-r) the author, Keith Kivett and Wayne Wilson."

your part by sharing vehicles and other equipment, helping with camp chores, doing your share of the work when an animal is dressed and hauled out of the bush, and following up the hunt by attending our meat butchering session.

Over the years, three of us have formed the hard-core nucleus of our team. As such, we each fill several roles that make our team function as one.

Leader/Organizer: Someone has to take charge to make sure things happen. This job passes from one person to the other depending on the timing and circumstances. One person might prod the others to start the planning, beginning with making applications for the draws. Another will take charge in camp, making sure we get up at the appointed hour to be at our posts when legal hunting time begins, and to direct traffic when a carcass needs to be cut and transported.

Cook: There are two things I require when I return to camp after a day of hunting: a warm and dry place to sleep and a hot meal. Our camps are designed to provide these needs. We don't designate a cook because we are too small for one to be needed and we each more or less fend for ourselves. We share communal staples but we are each responsible for our own food items. I know, this involves some duplication of effort but it works for us (that is, there's room around the fire for three cooks), and over the last few years we have been experimenting with a few common meals that have been agreeable to all.

On larger teams, however, a cook and common meals may be required to ensure everyone gets fed in a timely manner. The role of head cook is often passed from one member to another.

Mechanic: Although not a necessity, having someone with some mechanical knowledge and skill is a useful member of any moose hunting team. With all the motors and vehicles used on a hunt these days, it's a boon to have someone who doesn't mind rolling up his sleeves and solving mechanical problems as they arise. We have one such member on our team who, along with his ample tool kit and box of chains, has saved our bacon on numerous occasions.

Keeper of Knowledge: This is a role in which we all participate. First of all, there's the collective knowledge that the team has gathered from its experiences over the years. Each of us remembers varying portions of that knowledge and often bring it forth in conversations around the campfire. Second, there's the specialized knowledge each of us brings to the team. One of us is the go-to guy for answers to questions about the hunting regulations and the law. Two of us are trained biologists with knowledge about the biology of moose and other wildlife. Another lets us know when we're getting too serious. We all bring a wide knowledge of bush experience and lore.

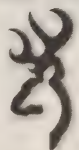
All of these roles and contributions come together to form a unique team that has worked very well over the years. We don't always score a moose, but we always have a successful hunt. ●

had never hunted moose before. We talked to other moose hunters but we mostly learned by trial and error—not the most efficient way to do business. Eventually we expanded to three and sometimes four members—all who brought some added expertise to the team. Sure enough our success increased. Some people only hunted with us for one season, others stayed longer. Some left because they determined that moose hunting or staying in a tent for a week, or both, wasn't for them, or they just didn't fit well into our little group.

"Fitting in" is important. We have a few unwritten rules that must be followed to stay on our team. First, you've got to have a sense of humor. Moose hunting can be a very frustrating business, depending on the licences drawn, the weather and the amount of game seen or heard. If you take it all too seriously you don't belong on our team. Some visitors to our camps have described our particular brand of humor as "warped" but sometimes being warped helps deflect the curve balls mother nature enjoys throwing our way.

Second, you've got to "pitch in," make a contribution to the effort. We're not just talking about the hunting here. It's assumed everyone will hunt to the best of their skills and abilities. We also require that you do

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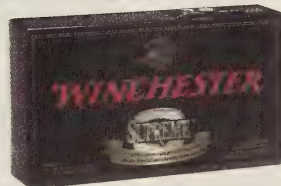
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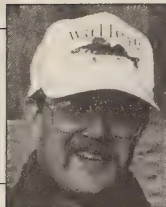


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by
**Brad
Fenson**

photos Brad Fenson

BE SUBTLE WITH **BIG CREATURES**

The large, square tracks were a telltale sign that my impatience had cost me a moose. The blocky, cloven hooves had left a perfect impression right in the middle of my boot print. If only I had waited.

There have been many old moose hunters tell me that the best way to shoot a moose is to sit on a hill for a week and call. And the old timers have the photos to prove it. My inability to sit for extremely long periods of time has prevented me from trying the age-old tactic but I have come to believe that it would work.

The moose rut is a fascinating event that turns a solitary animal into one with a seasonal weakness. However, don't expect a freight train entrance, even though there are some incredible stories out there. Generally moose will approach with caution using their nose and large ears to their advantage. They usually don't show themselves unless absolutely necessary and only if the cow won't come to their subtle communications.

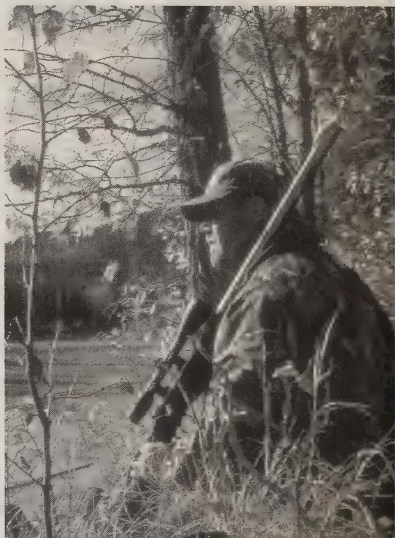
I have forced myself to sit for extended periods and have learned that patience is a virtue. Hunting the edge of a river I called every 20 to 30 minutes and patiently scanned the edge of the watercourse. After close to four hours of sitting I had let down my guard and was day dreaming and watching some ducks work the river bottom for food. I did not see the

moose at first but saw what looked like two sheets of plywood nailed to the trees about 300 meters downwind. I knew in my mind what it was and my binocular soon confirmed the presence of the biggest bull moose I have ever encountered while hunting. The massive giant had a spread that would easily break the 60-inch mark and he displayed his antlers like a neon sign to let the lovesick cow know that he was there to take care of her.

The bull hadn't made a sound and didn't show up in a spot that made him susceptible. He came out downwind and extended his long neck to suck in an incredible volume of air to let him know what to expect if he advanced any further. I don't know if it was the absence of cow moose essence or my human scent that put the bull on alert but it only took a matter of seconds for the big boy to turn around and disappear into the dense forest. He never showed a glimpse of antler or hair again. Later that evening the bull produced some low grunts from far up the ridge to let us know he was there. Really, he was simply telling the cow that she had better come to him as he was not comfortable on the prow!

Communicating with moose has intrigued me and I learn something every time I have an encounter with this largest member of the deer family. Moose do not live under the fast-paced routines that we have developed as humans and the sooner we, as hunters, learn to slow down the pace the better our hunting will be. I have been trying the stress free approach of sitting, calling and being patient and I have been surprised by what I have seen.

The first time I really started to believe that it might take a moose a full day to come to a call was on a fly-in trip in northern Alberta. We called from our camp every time we had an opportunity. When we got up in the



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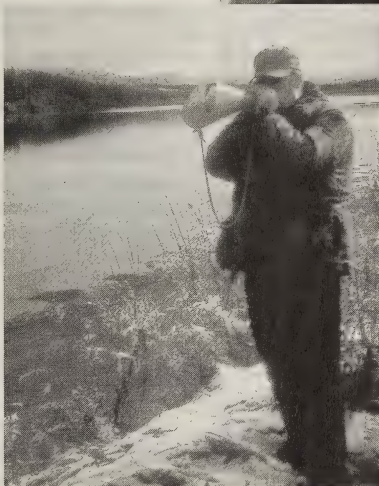


morning we would call. If we came back to make a meal we would call. Before we went to bed for the night, we would call. I knew that the moose could hear us after we detected the bellow of a cow several miles down the lake. I still didn't think it would take long for a bull to respond or show up. The second morning of our hunt we were woken by the deep, guttural grunts of a mature bull standing right beside our tent. I ended up shooting the moose a mere 30 meters from where we slept. Now I understood the concept of waiting and being patient. The last time we had called was hours before the bull actually showed up. He came in when conditions were right and under his terms.

Since that time I have learned to stay put and call repeatedly from the same location. When the old timers said to pick a good-looking spot, sit down and call for a week, they knew what they were talking about.

Being patient has also given me a little more insight into the communications of these grand creatures. They are not loud and boisterous; rather, they are subtle and shy. The soft calls of a mature bull are almost undetectable, sounding like someone swallowing when gulping down a cold drink of water. The subtle noises are easy for moose to detect with

ears the size of the small satellite dishes. The subtleties became real apparent last fall when I had the opportunity to watch a mature bull put his moves on a cow in heat. The cow would whine in a soft murmur that was barely detectable. The bull moved in close and had his ears locked on the cow. He would lower his head and show off the wide palms of the mature antlers that he sported, just as the big bull had done along the river. I was amazed at how well the large antlers stood out through the



maze of trees and branches. A creature with the height of a moose would have a definite advantage seeing the antlers sticking out like billboards. I watched the bull with my binocular and could see his mouth opening and closing as he talked to his lady friend but I could not hear what he was saying. Standing less than 200 meters away I had trouble believing that the sounds were not audible.

I was hunting and trying to sneak close enough to harvest the bull with my muzzleloader. Unfortunately, the love struck duo heard or saw me and slowly disappeared into the willows. My hunting partner had carried a fibreglass call with us and put it to use working it through the alders on the edge of the line we were watching. As he crashed and thumped like a bull marking his territory I scurried down the line until I could see the light coloured glare from the bull's antlers. The

willows prevented me from getting a shot so I continued forward with an aggressive approach. The bull stood there and watched over top me to try and find the bull that was challenging from down the line. Before I knew it I was only 20 meters from the bull and snuck a bullet through the maze of sprawling branches to put him on the ground.

It had been an incredible experience that left me shaking with excitement. The cow crashed off but did not travel far. She stood in the nearby forest and bellowed, getting louder and louder each time she tried to locate her bull.

It proved again that the best days are the ones when you learn something. ●

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by
**Kevin
Wilson**

Early Archery & Gun Seasons

Few Albertans capitalize on our early seasons. Beginning August 25th, many of the WMU 500 zones are open to bowhunters. Most zones in the bottom two thirds of the province open for bowhunting on September 8th. These early openers offer the unique advantage of being able to take a buck still in velvet. By the end of the first week of September, most have shed their velvet and begin to polish their antlers in preparation for the upcoming rut.

As for gun hunting, yes there are early seasons available as well. Whitetails can be hunted as early as September 1st in select northern zones with another key opener on September 17th in a range of WMU 300 and 400 zones. Be sure to check this regulations booklet for details. For those who prefer warm weather

hunting, nothing beats the early months.

During this pre-rut period, whitetails can be easy to pattern. Creatures of habit, they often travel the same trails to and from bedding and feeding areas. The key to hunting early season whitetails is to locate the best food source near bedding cover. Find a lush alfalfa or healthy pea crop and you're in the game. Mature bucks will always favour protein-rich food sources. In agricultural areas, woodlots with heavily used trails, trail intersections, funnels, staging areas and other transition zones can provide lots of

information as you scout. Although field edges can be a great place to hunt during the first and last hour of daylight, better success is often found by moving deeper into the woods. Position yourself some distance (e.g., 100 metres) into the woods along a primary trail.



photo: Kevin Wilson

Locate a series of paths joining the main trail and set up a tree stand or ground blind at the intersection.

Although sometimes tougher to pattern, big timber hunting can also produce exceptional early season results. Remember—food and water are a priority for deer when it's hot outside. In deep forest situations, locating a mineral lick or frequently visited water hole can be just the ticket when the mercury is high. But be aware, these high percentage locations become less active as the weeks progress and temperatures drop. From late August to the middle of September, licks and water holes can be dynamite. As soon as the leaves turn, these locales are visited less often.

Still considered early season, October can present both easy and difficult conditions. With leaves falling from the trees, whitetails go through a transition. Whitetails suddenly appear to be nocturnal. In many instances, it can seem as though they've vanished. But by mid-month, movement usually picks up. By the latter half of the month, bucks begin their pre-rut movement. Beginning to monitor doe groups and making boundary rubs and scrapes, bucks are sometimes eager to respond to rattling and calling efforts.

Hunting the Rut

With the exception of select early openers and a



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ew southern WMU's that are only open for three days a week throughout November, the general whitetail season opens across most of the province on November 1st. For most committed whitetail hunters, no other time of the year is as cherished as November. As deer progress through their breeding cycle, those monster bucks that are otherwise reclusive suddenly become less concerned about cover and more focused on the business at hand.

Still pre-rut, the first week of November marks the time when bucks are getting primed for breeding. They know the estrus is just around the corner and they act accordingly. Frequently checking resident does, marking territory with rubs and servicing scrapes, they step up their breeding efforts in earnest. Invariably, between the 9th and 16th of November, most does experience their two to three day cycle and every buck in the vicinity knows it. As soon as this phenomenon occurs, bucks suddenly begin to ravel non-stop in search of hot does.

For those who rely on deep woods ambush situations, whitetail movement becomes more obvious as soon as the estrus takes place. For those who rely on more visible movement in fields and across cut-lines for instance, the week or ten days just post-estrus can be unreal! Bucks who have already bred the most accessible does begin to move around the clock in search of additional breeding opportunities; hence the increased visibility.

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to as high as 400 lbs., mature trophy class deer reside in virtually all management units. Although rarely considered prime whitetail habitat, some of the southernmost prairie zones are producing outstanding trophies. The central parkland zones continue to generate some of the biggest whitetails ever taken. Many of the forest fringe zones, particularly those in the north-central region of the province continue to grow outstanding bucks and many of the western foothills zones maintain a reputation for fantastic bucks. Regardless of which area you target, whitetails are prevalent throughout much of the province and the November rut is certainly the best time to hunt.

With more and more hunters taking to the trees, tree stands are by far a preferred strategy for ambush hunting. By elevating yourself above the line of sight and ideally downwind of approaching deer, the hunter increases their odds for a shot opportunity. Stand hunting is the proven method of choice for most trophy whitetail hunters but other methods will work as well. Commonly employed, deer drives can bring deer out in the open, but the downside is that shots are often on the run. As a result, the odds of wounding and losing deer are high.

The spot and stalk approach is an option, but whitetails are astute. They have an uncanny sixth sense that often gives them the upper hand before a shot can be taken. Perhaps the most valued aspect of the rut is the increased vulnerability to sounds and scents that attract their attention. Bucks are curious about competition and breeding prospects. As a result, they are easily duped by the familiar sounds of antler on antler, doe bleats, buck grunts and the use of a doe decoy. By rattling with shed antlers, one can literally bring bucks in on the run. Add vocalizations and a decoy and you're well on



- photo Kevin Wilson

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AFTER THE SHOT



photo TJ Schwanky

"Take her," I said confidently to Kim.

It was an extremely tough shot, almost straight down with only a frozen log for support but I was certain that Kim could do it. At the report of her .30-06 I saw the ewe stumble and then begin to run blindly through the heavy aspen that covered the steep slope. The old bighorn showed all the signs of a heart hit but with no snow for tracking and only an hour of daylight

remaining, that nagging, gut-wrenching feeling that we might not find her enveloped me. I can count the number of animals on one finger that I've lost after hitting them but it always stresses me when an animal doesn't fall on the spot.

There was an occasional drop of blood but with no snow it was taking too long to follow the trail. "You stay on the blood and I'll go ahead," I told Kim with visions of grizzly bears dancing in my head.

The ewe had kicked up a steady trail of debris and it was easy going for the first 40 yards, then all sign just vanished. It was as if a spaceship had flown over and teleported her aboard. I searched in vain for blood, scuffmarks, any clue as to her whereabouts. Then, out of the corner of my eye, I noticed the grass flattened out in a perfect slide down the steep slope. While I had yet to see the sheep, I had confidence she was piled up somewhere below. Sliding down the runway on my butt, I came to a screeching halt, a hundred yards below, my feet braced against one very dead bighorn ewe.

I relate this story not to praise myself for the tracking job, which by the way I was very proud of, but to make the point that not all game can be tracked by simply following a blood trail. No, often one must read all the signs. But with diligence and forethought, most wounded game can be recovered.

I have read many articles about what different colours of blood mean, what air bubbles in the blood mean, what parts of the body different shades of hair came from and even how to analyze bone fragments. But what if there is no blood, no hair or no bone? Not all wounded game bleeds. If they do, by all means follow the trail, but if not don't despair, there is still an excellent opportunity to recover the animal.

The tracking job begins as the bullet leaves the barrel. It is not always

possible to see where the bullet hits but the reaction of the hit animal will often give all the clues you need.

Knowing where the bullet struck will help you decide if you should begin tracking immediately, how far the animal is likely to have gone, and if a follow-up shot may be required.

There are no hard and fast rules here but the majority of the heart-hit animals I've seen have run away at warp speed with no particular direction in mind. Conversely, lung hit game will often stand momentarily, possibly mouth breathing before running away. Gut shot animals will often hump up, pause and then run off. The best advice that I can offer when you take the initial shot is not to show yourself until the



by
**T.J.
Schwanky**



photo TJ Schwanky

animal has dropped or moved off. The shot may not spook them but you hooting and hollering sure will. Remain concealed and keep watching either through your scope or binocular. Look for any clue as to where the animal is hit and more importantly, take a second shot if the opportunity presents itself.

Listen carefully for the sound of a hit as well. It is not always possible to hear, especially for the shooter but often a companion will be able to tell if there was a hit or not. Several years ago my wife shot at a big whitetail buck 300 yards away. At the sound of the shot the deer never moved but seconds later he slowly walked into the heavy bush totally unconcerned. There was no evidence of a hit, but I was certain I had heard one. We found the buck stone cold dead 30 yards away.

The second mistake that hunters make is to take off running for the last place they saw the animal standing, or where they thought they saw it standing. Your perspective can change a lot on the way there and just locating exactly where the animal was originally standing can be a chore. Many of the good bowhunters that I know will not take their eyes off the spot where the animal was when they shot and they will often shoot another arrow into the ground at that location. Rifle hunters do not have this option, so if you are alone, make certain to make note of plenty of landmarks before heading out. If there are two of you, have the shooter stay in place while he guides the second individual to the exact spot

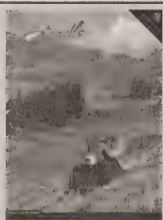
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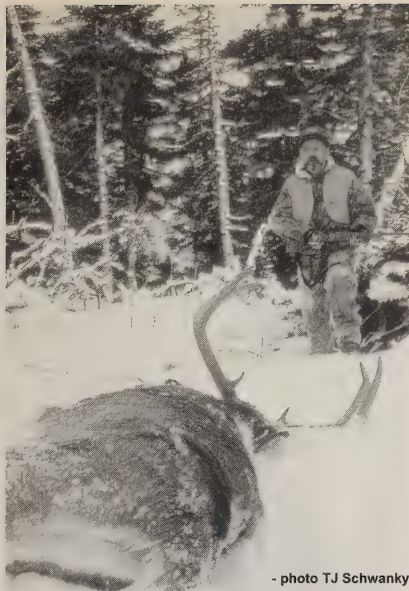
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where the animal was shot.

Don't head off in the direction you saw the animal go before looking for signs of a hit where the animal was last standing. Often you will run over minute clues that could have helped you locate the game. Carefully dissect the last location the animal was standing. Look for those telltale signs of blood, bone and hair. If there is a slight blood trail, mark its route with orange surveyor's tape or toilet paper. If the blood trail is patchy, always mark the last blood spot before moving on to



- photo TJ Schwanky

find the next one. The entire trail can easily be lost if it is not marked. If there is no blood, look for fresh tracks, scuffmarks or trails through wet or snowy grass. By getting down to ground level it is often very easy to see where an animal recently moved through the grass. Fresh scuffmarks in dirt or sand that have not been dried by the sun are another excellent clue. Pay attention to the tracks of the animal you are tracking and look for anything that will help you distinguish them from others. Even in fresh snow a track can be lost if the animal hits a well-used trail and its tracks meld with the others.

There is nothing magical about tracking wounded game; it just requires patience and a well executed plan. Search out the little clues when there are no major ones. Rare is the case when all traces of where the animal went are lost but occasionally this happens.

I shot a bear with my muzzleloader a couple years ago. I knew I made a good hit, likely in the heart or lungs but the bear took off at mach one without as much as a clue. We found him by walking in semi-circles at five-yard intervals from where the bear was originally shot. He managed to go about 80 yards and it was a couple hours before we recovered the bruin but we did find him.

As hunters it is our responsibility to make every effort possible to recover wounded game. There are very few valid excuses for not finding your animal. And, when it comes right down to it, still the simplest way to avoid lengthy follow-ups is to ensure your shot is perfect before you take it. ●

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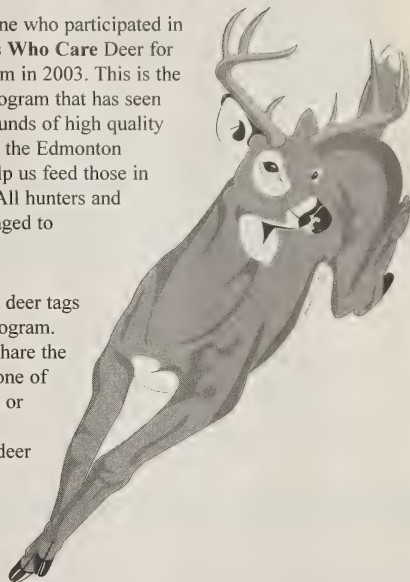
The Alberta United Recreationist Society is a not-for-profit organization formed to represent motorized backcountry access and random camping through volunteer events and government liaison. It is our goal to preserve responsible public recreation on public lands.

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Thank you to everyone who participated in the **Alberta Hunters Who Care** Deer for the Foodbank Program in 2003. This is the eighth year of our program that has seen more than 35,000 pounds of high quality deer meat donated to the Edmonton Foodbank. Please help us feed those in need again in 2004. All hunters and outfitters are encouraged to participate.



1. There are no extra deer tags allotted for this program. You are asked to share the harvest from any one of the general season or supplementary whitetail or mule deer tags available.
2. Only deer that have been harvested between October 25 and December 15, 2004 during the regular general seasons are eligible for this program.
3. The deer cannot be completely frozen and it must be delivered to a participating meat processor within 24 hours from the time of harvest.
4. Please contact the processor to ensure whether the deer can be brought in skinned or unskinned.
5. There are no processing costs charged to the donating hunter. The processing costs are paid by the **Alberta Hunters Who Care** association through financial donations by hunting organizations including our primary sponsor, the "**Alberta Conservation Association**".

To find the complete donation guidelines and the list of participating meat processors, please call our 24 hour information line at 780-962-1460. Or you can visit the Hunting for Tomorrow website at www.huntingfortomorrow.com. Our deer donation information is found under their **Facts and Fiction** section under **Fact #11**.

You can also contact the **Alberta Hunters Who Care** Supervisors: Jim Thomson at 780-962-9452 or Gordon Corcoran at 780-842-3774.

Thank you for sharing your harvest with those in need!!



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WHEN SECONDS COUNT!

HUNT STRATEGICALLY.



by
**Duane
Radford**

I had time for maybe one shot as the four-point mule deer buck bolted from the stand of aspen and streaked across an opening in the prairie. At the crack of my .270 rifle the big buck folded and skidded to a sudden stop in the tall, dry grass of late autumn.

What did I do (right) to be in the right position at the right time? How did I manage to make a tough shot to cap off a successful hunt?

My hunting partner and I had spotted the buck with a small harem of does late in the afternoon as they fed into an aspen stand on a nearby hillside. There was rolling prairie to the north and a large, open hay field to the south.

We decided that I would take the north flank along the edge of the aspen stand and my partner would skirt the southern edge of the stand. We would stalk the deer along the edge of the aspen copse (as they worked their way eastward) the direction they were headed when they entered the stand of aspen—the old squeeze play. I made haste to get on top of the hillside and it wasn't long before I caught sight of them as they worked their way through the aspen. My partner was out of sight, presumably to the south, working eastward and parallel to me.

As the deer approached the far end of the aspen stand I could see they were getting nervous and figured that it was just a matter of time until they spooked. I turned the power on my variable scope down to 2X. I knew that if I did get a shot, it would be at a running deer. I wanted to be able to pick it up as quickly as possible in the scope. I also reminded myself of

proper leads on running deer: one body length at 100 yards, two body lengths at 200 yards, etc. My rifle has a Mauser action and all I had to do was work the bolt to cock it, as a round was already in the chamber. I held it in the ready position, anticipating an offhand shot.

I was as prepared as I was ever going to be when the deer started to leave the stand of aspen, headed north; less than 100 yards from where I was stationed. I could see the buck was a dandy as it bounded from the security of the poplars and headed for another nearby stand. I picked up the deer in the scope, followed through with a body length lead, and slowly squeezed the trigger. The bullet did its job and the hunt was over. I had connected on a witching hour buck just minutes before the end of legal shooting time by hunting strategically. I had only seconds to make the shot.

It wasn't dumb luck that I connected on this buck. I knew there were mule deer in the area and my partner and I had worked hard to spot the herd with the trophy buck. After that it was a matter of developing a plan, executing a stalk, harrying our quarry just enough to get them to leave the security of their cover, and then making a difficult shot count. When the time came to shoot, I had only a matter of seconds to pick up the buck as it bounded away, but I was ready to shoot. This is often a crucial factor on many big game hunts: being ready for the shot.

There were lots of white-tailed deer in the

same general area I took the eleventh hour trophy mule deer, but it took me a while to figure out their movement patterns. When it finally dawned on me how they traveled between their feeding and bedding areas, I

connected on four nice bucks sitting in exactly the same stand four out of five years. All good things must come to an end and the end to hunting on this prime deer factory came when the land changed owners and developments precluded hunting. But it was good while it lasted.

What I did was stake out a stand on the edge of a large field where I had seen bucks crossing at various times of the day and took my chances. I knew that it was just a matter of time until I got a shot.

Beforehand, however, I paced off distances from this stand to all quarters of the field so that I knew how far away a deer would be depending on where it appeared. This is essential when you're shooting at moving targets and I knew, from experience, that most white-tailed bucks that crossed this field would be on the move. I might have to lead them by one or two body lengths, for example. I rarely shoot at a moving target beyond 200 yards as these are really tough shots.

In order to spot a buck in time for a shot, I glassed the far edge of the field every few minutes to pick them up while they were still standing securely, checking things out before they decided to cross.



- photo Duane Radford

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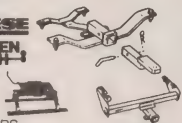
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It worked every time, Sure enough, when they built up enough courage to leave the aspen stand on the far side of the field, and trotted across the field, I was ready and waiting. I knew precisely how much of a lead was required, and I waited until they were no more than 200 yards distant before I fired. I also made a couple of standing shots at ranges from 100 to 300 yards when the bucks stopped to feed in the early morning.

Only once did I have much time to think about the shots. In the rest of the cases it was get ready, aim and fire. It was all over in a matter of seconds.

Then there are elk, perhaps the toughest of all big game animals to pattern where the ultimate in strategic hunting is required, not to mention different tactics for antelope, bighorn sheep and moose. I think that you're getting the picture.

Hunting strategically boils down to being familiar with the lay of the

land, with the movement patterns of the game you're hunting, planning and executing a stalk if you see an animal, working your way into a position where you are likely to see one, taking a stand where this is likely to pay off, being able to judge ranges and using proper leads on moving targets with the knowledge, that, at the end of the day, seconds do count!

How do you make sure you get off your best shot? By knowing your rifle and by being prepared to make a shot under less than ideal conditions. You must be prepared to make the best of your opportunities when time is short.

Generally, a hunter will have only a few seconds to make a shot when the chips are down. Always hold on hair on your first shot (on standing shots), and position yourself so that you can get off a good shot, if only one shot, and make it count! ●



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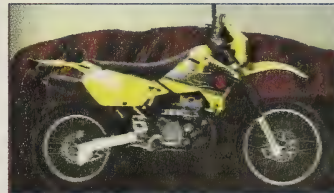
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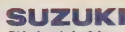


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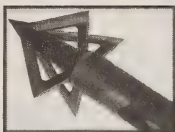
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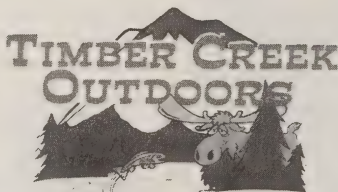
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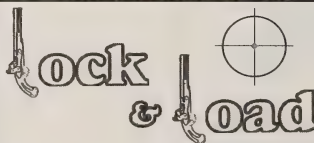
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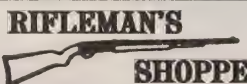


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Dean Pederson of Hinton, Alberta is our 2003 Elk Champion. Dean took this majestic elk out of WMU 438 near Hinton. Dean's elk scored an impressive 373 1/8 (official) and earned him \$250.00 for his efforts. Congratulations Dean on a fine 2003 hunting season.



WHITE-TAILED DEER

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Jack Mast of Barrhead, Alberta took this incredible whitetail out of WMU 350 near Swan Hills. This buck scored a whopping 199 7/8 (official) and scored 97.858% of the provincial record. Jack becomes our overall 2003 Alberta Hunter of the Year and receives \$500.00 and bragging rights for 2004.



MULE DEER

Sheldon Coderre (\$250)

Sheldon Coderre of Medicine Hat, Alberta claimed this buck out of WMU 124 near his hometown. Sheldon's buck grossed a whopping 242 5/8, netted a final score of 201 2/8 (official) and finished at 97.694% of the provincial record for mule deer. Sheldon wins \$250.00 and is our 2003 Whitetail Champion.

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- 3) A hunter may enter only one animal per species.
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- 5) All qualifying game must be scored by an Official Measurer and cannot be scored until after the trophy has dried for 60 or more days after harvest date.
- 6) Each entrant must submit a photo of themselves with their trophy, as well as a photo of the trophy by itself. All photos become the property of Sports

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- 8) Sports Scene Publications Inc. reserves the right to reject or accept any entry and all decisions will be final.
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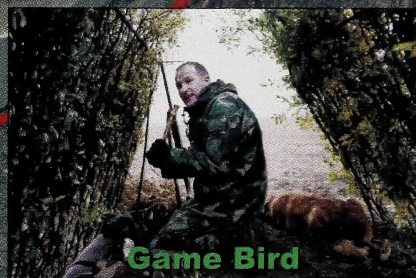
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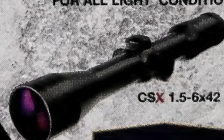


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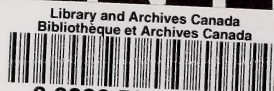
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